PYE
RADIO
for the CAR
for the HOME
GILMANS
GLOUCESTER ARCADE

HK Residents Decorated—Back Page

THE WEATHER: Moderate, fresh, South-east winds. Fair.

CHINA MAIL
Established 1845
No. 35705 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1953. Price 20 Cents

ORIGINAL—ODHNER
Calculator—Model 107
+ − × ÷
Only $850
HONGKONG TYPEWRITER EXCHANGE
9 D'Aguilar St. Tel. 21433.

COMMENT OF THE DAY

A Year Ends

IT would be idle to suggest that 1953 has produced all the hoped-for progress towards the easing of international tension and the establishment of world peace, yet it has been a year of not insignificant achievement. The cold war continues, but its tempo and intensity has varied considerably during the past twelve months and is at this moment less malignant in appearance than it was when 1953 opened. If the signing of the Korean armistice has failed to find consolidation because of the breakdown in negotiations for a political conference, it has served its immediate and principal purpose—of bringing wasteful and fruitless fighting to an end; wherefore, by reason of this alone, the world can look back on 1953 in a benign manner. And while there has been continued frustration over many other international problems, notably Germany and Austria, there have been happier and more promising developments in other directions. One of the most important has been the restoration of diplomatic relations between Britain and Persia, accompanied by the obviously sincere desire of the new regime under the Shah to reach a settlement of the oil dispute. That such a settlement will be reached before the new year is very old is not expecting too much. The new spirit of sensible compromise which is now being displayed by the Persian authorities makes success in future negotiations virtually a certainty.

ENCOURAGING too, as the year ends, is the possibility of improved relations between Russia and the Western Powers. Concrete results to justify optimism have still to come, but two noteworthy developments have recently occurred which may lead to something positive. Firstly it now appears reasonably certain that a meeting of the Big Four foreign ministers will be held next month when a renewed attempt will be made to reach some workable agreement on the future of Germany and conclusion of an Austrian peace treaty. The differences of views between Russia and the West on the German problem are still considerable and will not easily be composed. Nevertheless the necessity for settling the future of that nation is as urgent today as ever before, and unless something tangible emerges from the Berlin conference there can be no appreciable lessening of tension between Soviet Russia and the Free World.

ANOTHER gleam of hope has been given by Russia's reaction to President Eisenhower's proposals for the creation of an atomic energy "bank", leading eventually to international control of all atomic and fissionable materials and weapons. The Kremlin refrained from rejecting the plan out of hand and has gone as far as cautiously agreeing to the proposal that the nations possessing atomic and fissionable materials should hold private discussions with a view to reaching agreement on the machinery for making an atomic "bank" operative. There is as yet no sign when such talks are likely to materialise; they may, in fact, very well depend on what progress, if any, is made at the Berlin foreign ministers' conference. But there are small signs existent with the ending of 1953 that next year may be marked with at least a truce being called in the cold war, and that the East and West will be able to draw nearer towards settling outstanding international issues through negotiations.

PLANE CRASH DRAMA

Fifty People Miraculously Escape Death

Vancouver, Dec. 30.

Fifty people miraculously escaped death or serious injury today when a four-engined RCAF plane crashed during an emergency landing at the Vancouver International Airport.

An Air Force spokesman said only the pilot, Flight-Lieutenant John Evans, who had turned the crippled plane around and started to limp back to Vancouver, was seriously hurt.

The North Star transport, based at Montreal's Dorval Airport, was on a flight to Edmonton when it developed engine trouble. As the plane approached the runway through a murky overcast on an instrument landing, it started to drift from side to side.

Eyewitnesses said the plane swerved suddenly to one side as it finally touched the runway and lurched on the soft turf bordering the concrete strip.

The plane lifted on one side as the huge tyres bit into the ground, and a wing tip dug into the earth.

Witnesses said the transport hung balanced for almost a minute before going over on its back with "an earthshaking roar."

X-RAYED

Hospital authorities said pilot Evans suffered from head and facial lacerations and undetermined body injuries. The others on board were taken to the Shaughnessy Military Hospital for precautionary X-Rays. There was no immediate announcement of what the X-Rays showed.

The passengers included two women and two children, families of men also aboard. Several passengers said they were bounced around "like ping pong balls" and some were thrown completely out of their seats when their safety-belts gave way.

"I was scared and praying all the time," said Ordinary Seaman George McIvor of Edmonton. "I was sitting about half way back on the right hand side of the plane, reading a book, when suddenly there was a terrific jolt and I was upside down."

A few minutes later he was helped, shaken, from the wreckage.

A crash-truck witness who saw the plane approaching the field said it was "about 100 feet from the ground, coming in like a big bird, uneasy about where to land".—United Press.

Retracts Accusation Against His Father

Digne, Dec. 30.

Gustave Dominici today retracted his accusation that his father, Gaston, had murdered the Drummond family.

But another son of the 77-year-old Gaston, who was charged with the triple murder last month, tonight continued to maintain that his father had confessed his guilt to him.

Gustave made his retraction during a formal hearing before Judge Marcel Piries, the magistrate in charge of the 16-month-old investigation of the murder of the British scientist, Sir Jack Drummond, Lady Drummond and their daughter Elizabeth.

"Everything I have told you is untrue," Gustave said.

Gaston Dominici, who has protested his innocence since he was taken to Digne prison after being formally charged, again proclaimed today that he was not responsible for the murder.

"It's a bad joke—I lied to you when I admitted to the murder. I wanted to save the honour of my grandchildren and I did everything as I was told to do by the police," he was reported to have said.

When his eldest son, Clovis, stretched out his hand to him, the old man exclaimed: "You hooligan, you are no son of mine."

Questioned by M. Piries, Clovis said: "I have nothing to add to my previous statements. My father admitted his guilt to me."

Gaston confessed last month that he had killed the Drummond family after both Gustave and Clovis had separately accused their father.—Reuter.

STOP PRESS

AUSTRALIA WINS

Melbourne, Dec. 31.

Ken Rosewall (Australia) beat Vic Seixas (U.S.A.) 6-2, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the final singles match of the Davis Cup.

Australia therefore beat U.S.A., three matches to two.—Reuter.

Sucked Through Plane's Door

Paris, Dec. 30.

The steward of a Belgian Sabena airliner plunged to his death today after being sucked by the wind through an open door.

The plane was enroute to Brussels from Le Bourget Field here. It returned to the airport after the accident.

The door snapped off while the plane was flying at 6,000 feet, smashing against one of the plane's two engines. The body of the steward, Guillaume Hoprick, 28, of Antwerp, also struck the engine before hurtling to earth.

Airline officials said the door apparently was improperly closed before the plane took off from Paris.—United Press.

FIERY DEATH

San Miguel de Tucuman, Argentina, Dec. 30.

At least five persons met a fiery death today when a passenger train and a tank truck loaded with 5,000 gallons of gasoline collided at an unprotected crossing. Some 25 persons were seriously injured or burned.

The gasoline exploded, enveloping the locomotive and truck in flames and trapping the engineer, fireman and assistant in the overturned locomotive, as well as the truck driver and a 14-year-old boy with him. A third man in the truck was in critical condition.—United Press.

Merry-Making At The Zoo

As may be expected, when the hostesses at the Childerns Zoo, London, hold their annual party, a number of strange guests join in the festivities. This year was no exception and a Llama, ponies, squirrels, a guinea pig, a fox and some goats joined in the Christmas celebrations with the girls. Here "Rock", the Pets Corner pony, looks on with interest as Maureen McVady, the 21-year-old Supervisor of the Childrens Zoo cuts the cake during the Christmas Party, watched by (left to right) Iris Daley, Roma Sunderland, Janet Nicholson, Yolanda Prada (seated), Joan Orbell and Jean Andrews, with an assortment of unusual guests. —London Express.

Laniel Resignation May Be Refused

But Premier Will Demand Vote Of Confidence

Paris, Dec. 31.

The French Premier, M. Joseph Laniel, intends to offer the resignation of his Cabinet to President Vincent Auriol as soon as the 1954 budget has been voted, probably on January 3, it was learned from sources close to the Premier last night.

President Vincent Auriol, in close consultation with M. Rene Coty, who succeeds him as President on January 17, will probably refuse his offer.

Whether M. Laniel will insist on resigning or agree to carry on depends on the Assembly.

M. Laniel will certainly want the Assembly to give him a new vote of confidence on the Government's general policy if he is to be induced to withdraw his contemplated resignation.

This vote of confidence would take place between January 4 and 12, at an extraordinary session of the Assembly. That period is normally one of Parliamentary vacation.

According to custom on the assumption of office by a new President, the Government was in any case due to resign on January 17, though a strong current of opinion in the French National Assembly and among Conservative members of the coalition Government would like the Premier to carry on until after the imminent four-power conference in Berlin.

It is pointed out that if the Government resigned on January 17, there would be little time to form the next one before January 25, the date suggested by Moscow for the four-power meeting.

PARTY RIVALRIES

Party rivalries, manifested acutely during the Presidential election, and fears of industrial unrest are given as reasons why M. Laniel does not wish to continue as Premier.

The Radicals, an important section of the Laniel coalition Government, were held responsible for his defeat in the Presidential election, and there are fears of considerable agitation and possible strikes for big wages increases on a national scale in the New Year.

Inter-party feeling may again be stirred up over the choice of a new Speaker for the National Assembly. M. Edouard Herriot, the veteran statesman who has occupied this post for the past seven years, will retire on January 12, and the Assembly will be called upon to elect his successor.

The Popular Republicans, whose support enabled a Conservative to enter the Elysee Palace, are expecting Conservative support for a Popular Republican candidate [illegible]

But the Radicals, after their signal failure to capture the Presidency, are believed to keep the post for one of their representatives. The Socialists have already nominated their candidate, the Deputy Speaker, M. Andre Le Troquer.

The Popular Republican candidate is expected to be either M. Pierre Pflimlin, Deputy from Alsace, or M. Pierre Schneiter.

M. Pflimlin has been several times a Minister and M. Schneiter has been Minister of Health and several times Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.—Reuter.

MINISTER'S THREAT

Paris, Dec. 30.

The French Education Minister, M. Andre Marie, reported to have threatened to resign at today's Cabinet meeting, told reporters later he had decided not to resign for the time being.

M. Marie had a long talk with the Prime Minsiter, M. Joseph Laniel, and the Finance Minister, M. Edgar Faure, and then told reporters "my decision will be taken in the light of the solutions which will be adopted for the different problems we discussed and also of the general political situation in the next few days."

He recently clashed with the Finance Minister, M. Edgar Faure, over the education budget for 1954.

Although the 1954 budget will be larger than the 1953 budget by 25,000,000,000 Francs (£25,000,000), M. Marie has been pressing for additional credits to set up a school health service.

M. Faure opposed further allocations, and at today's Cabinet meeting, the Education Minister was reported to have threatened to resign if the additional credits were not found.

M. Marie told reporters an inter-ministerial meeting would decide, possibly tomorrow, on the health service plan, and a special committee appointed [illegible] would start work on [illegible]

Only One Problem

Our Own Correspondent

London, Dec. 30.

Persian newspapers said today that a British oil delegation is expected to visit Persia soon and that Persian oil is expected to flow to the world's markets in about four months' time. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Abdullah Entezam called the Daily Express correspondent to his Teheran office and told him: "We agree to an international marketing organisation, including the British.

"We agree to use international technicians. We realise the marketers will want to be sure they can have the right quality and quantity at the right time. The remaining problem is one of management."

Two-Headed Baby Boy Improving

Indianapolis, Dec. 30.

A two-headed boy born 18 days ago was reported "generally improved" today, and physicians said they were now giving equal portions of food to both mouths.

Spokesmen at the James Whitcomb Riley Memorial Hospital also said administration of oxygen was "discontinued temporarily" to see the affect.

The baby's condition since its birth had been cautiously described as "critical", but physicians said today the infant was improved and the colour of the left side was "better". The left side had been pale and was not given as much food as the right.

The boy, born with four arms, was brought to the hospital shortly after his birth in a Southern Indiana hospital. His parents have not indicated when they will take him home. They saw the baby on Sunday and were quoted as saying they would take him home as soon as the hospital approved.

Their family physician, Dr J. W. Elbert of Petersburg, said he doubted if the parents could care for the infant properly and indicated that he would insist they move to a town.—United Press.

SIAMESE TWINS DEAD

Newport, Dec. 30.

Siamese twins, joined in front, were born dead in this Welsh town last week, it was revealed here today.

The mother, whose name has not been disclosed, is the wife of a train driver. She has two sons aged four and two.

The family doctor, who helped to keep the secret of the twins birth for five days, said they were united in the middle, but all their limbs were fully formed. He would not indicate their sex [illegible]

Resettling The Fire Victims

£200,000 Gift By British Government

The British Government has made a free gift of £200,000 to the Government of Hongkong as a contribution towards the cost of rehousing the 58,000 victims of the Christmas night fire at Shamshuipo, Kowloon.

In a telegram received in Hongkong from the Secretary of State for the Colonies this morning Mr Lyttelton said:—"I have noted with satisfaction the prompt and energetic measures which are being taken in Hongkong to deal with this disaster.

"As a token of their sympathy with the Government and people of the Colony in the burdens which they will have to bear in carrying out the measures of relief and reconstruction, Her Majesty's Government have decided, subject to the approval of Parliament, to make a free gift of £200,000 to the Government of Hongkong as a contribution towards the cost of rehousing."

M. Auriol's Appeal

Paris, Dec. 30.

President Vincent Auriol appealed to Frenchmen to reconcile their individual and national interests in a farewell radio broadcast here tonight.

The retiring President said: "France is rent by deadly passions and hatreds at the very time when we should be united for our common revival. But they should now be silenced so that we can show our friends and enemies our united strength and resolution."

"I hope the new year will bring peace to Indo-China where, for seven years the soldiers of the French Union, to whom I send my affectionate, grateful wishes, have been fighting to assure security and liberty for the Associated states."

"May the appeal which I made in vain to the United Nations Organisation three years ago at last be heard," M. Auriol continued. "May the statesmen who are responsible for the life and happiness of millions of people overcome their distrust and meet to frankly discuss the difficulties paralysing the world.

"May they replace armaments and fear by co-operation to produce wealth, confidence and well-being."—Reuter.

Fire Victims Relief Fund

Total contributions to the S.C.M. Post, Ltd. fund for squatters rendered homeless in the Christmas Day fire in Kowloon were approaching the $400,000 mark at 10 o'clock this morning. The actual figure was $377,756.

Cheques for the Fund should be crossed and made payable to "The Shamshuipo Fire Victims Relief Fund."

TODAY'S DONATIONS

	$
P. Chan	20.00
Mrs C. J. Bhumgara	20.00
Sympathiser	20.00
"In memory of Mother"	30.00
Bejonjee & Co.	151.00
Mr & Mrs S. G. Connery	20.00
Central Radio & Electric Co.	250.00
D. S. Roberts	25.00
S. M. Lee	30.00
Anonymous	100.00
N.S.Y.	80.00
Goddard & Co., Ltd.	500.00
Mr & Mrs P. B. Dhabher	100.00
E. Marianne Hill	100.00
F. Brice	20.00
Anonymous	25.00
Laura Gutterres	50.00
C. J. Lowe	100.00
Mr & Mrs J. M. Pomerantz	50.00
M. Bunn	20.00
Katie Archee	25.00
Mr & Mrs J. P. Asciappa	25.00
Barry & Jimmy	20.00
Karsten Larsen & Co, (HK) Ltd.	1,000.00
Mr & Mrs Bunnan Tong	500.00
Mr & Mrs A. Buckley	20.00
Mrs V. J. Decker	25.00
Dr J. K. Fong	100.00
S. M. Leong	100.00
D. H. Jordan	50.00
Staff of Radiological Dept., Queen Mary Hospital	310.00
C. K. Leung	15.00
G. T. Hole	100.00
Mr & Mrs H. N. Williamson	100.00
Alhambra Theatre	500.00
J. L. C. Pearce	100.00
Philipp Brothers Inc. of New York	500.00
Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	2,500.00
China Motor Bus Co., Ltd.	2,000.00
Olivier & Co., (HK) Ltd.	500.00
H. M. Hodges Ltd.	250.00
Anonymous	15.00
Mrs K. S. Cheah	20.00
Geraldine Lau	10.00
Mr & Mrs W. Aneurin Jones	50.00
Mr T. Lai per C.G.S.	100.00
Servicemen Guides and Seafarers in the Missions to Seamen	243.70
Rotary Club of Hongkong	5,000.00
Chartered Accountants' Golf Meeting	100.00
B. G. Weldon	50.00
Chas. H. Arnhold	250.00
Hongkong Rope Mfg. Co., Ltd.	1,000.00
E. Stephenson	25.00

(Contd. on Back Page, Col. 2)

More Experience
—that's the priceless advantage Pan American offers you!

● First airline to fly the Pacific, the North Atlantic, round the world, Pan American has 25 years of overseas flying experience! Today Pan American operates over 100 airliners to more than 400 destinations in 80 lands on all six continents. Regularly flies more passengers overseas than any other airline! On your next trip overseas, fly with Pan American—World's Most Experienced Airline!

For reservations anywhere in the world, call your Travel Agent or
Alexandra House [illegible]
[illegible]

KING'S PRINCESS EMPIRE

SHOWING TO-DAY

AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M. || AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.40 P.M. || AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

KING'S WITH STEREOPHONIC SOUND (Giant Screen)

Added Attraction
At the PRINCESS ONLY:
THE GREAT
GOGIA PASHA

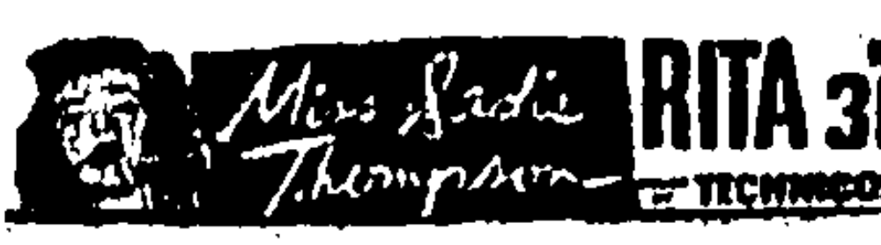
At the EMPIRE ONLY:
IN
3-D

As The Most Notorious Woman Of Our Time!
Spontaneous Combustion In A Satin Gown!!!
COLUMBIA PICTURES presents
RITA HAYWORTH
JOSE FERRER
Miss Sadie Thompson
Color by TECHNICOLOR
A BECKWORTH CORPORATION PICTURE
with ALDO RAY

KING'S Special Morning Shows

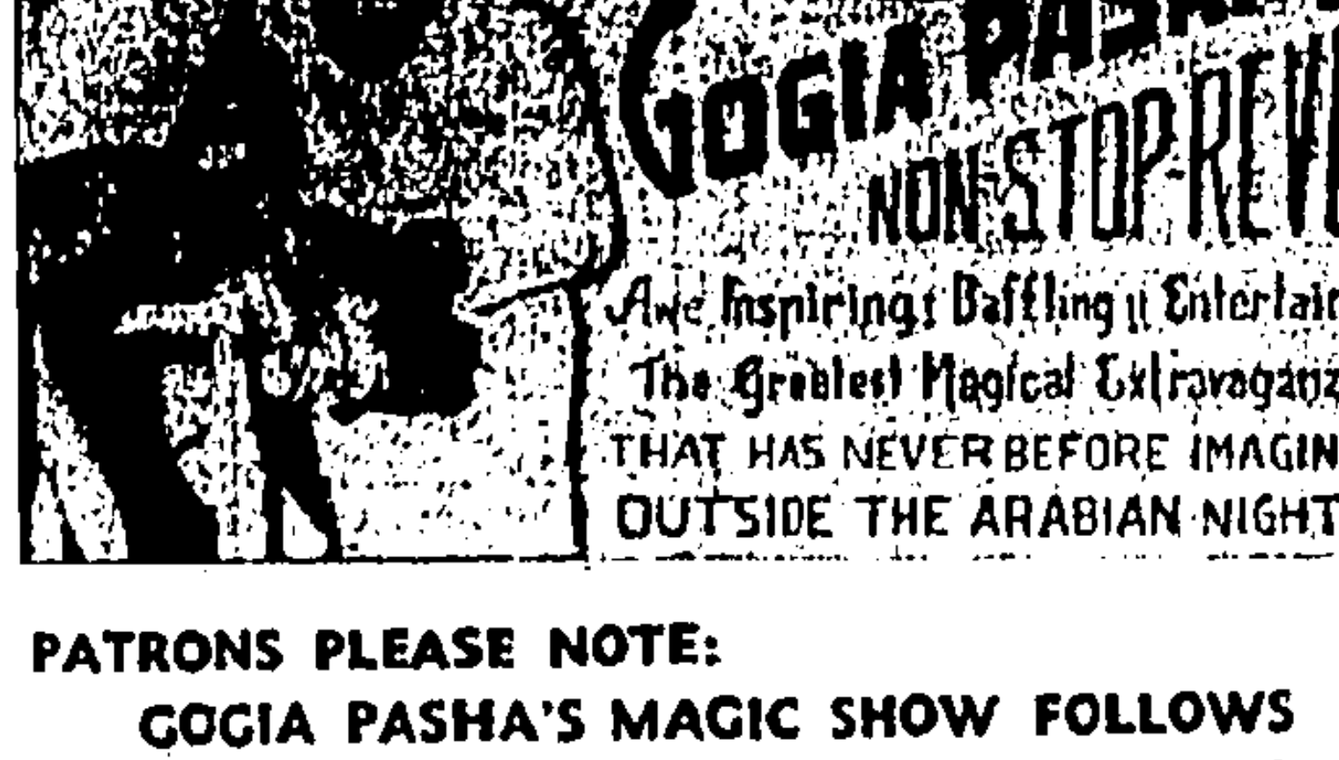
On Jan. 1st, 2nd & 3rd at 11.30 a.m.

STEREOPHONIC SOUND (Giant Screen)



WITH STEREOPHONIC SOUND ON GIANT SCREEN
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE COLONY!
New American Polaroid Viewers:—50c. Each.

ADDED ATTRACTION AT THE PRINCESS TO-DAY


ON THE STAGE
GOGIA PASHA'S
NON-STOP REVUE
Awe Inspiring! Baffling!! Entertaining!
The Greatest Magical Extravaganza
THAT HAS NEVER BEFORE IMAGINED OUTSIDE THE ARABIAN NIGHTS!

PATRONS PLEASE NOTE:
GOGIA PASHA'S MAGIC SHOW FOLLOWS
Each Performance of "MISS SADIE THOMPSON"
Admission for Both Attractions —
Front & Back Stalls $2.40, D.C. $3.00, Loge $3.50

CAPITOL LIBERTY
Tel: 73515 THE HOME OF Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer PICTURES Tel: 50333
CAPITOL TOWN BOOKING OFFICE:
Wing Hong Firm, Hong Kong Hotel, Queen's Road, C.

2ND BIG WEEK
Special Times: At 2.30, 5.10, 7.30 & 9.40 p.m.
ON PANORAMIC SCREEN

M-G-M's GREATEST TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL
since its famed hit "An American In Paris"!
The Band Wagon
Color by Technicolor
FRED ASTAIRE · CYD CHARISSE
OSCAR LEVANT · NANETTE FABRAY · JACK BUCHANAN

TO-MORROW MORNING SHOW AT 12.30 P.M.
M-G-M's
TOM & JERRY CARTOONS
In Technicolor
At Reduced Prices: $1.50, $1.00

— NEXT CHANGE —

UK Industry Told: Increase Trade With China, USSR

London, Dec. 30.

British industry was urged today to step up trade with the Soviet Union, China and Eastern European countries behind the Iron Curtain.

A confidential report drawn up by the East-West trade panel of the Federation of British Industries — Britain's top industrial Association — recommends that trade in non-strategic goods with countries of the Eastern bloc "should be pursued without any inhibitions arising from political considerations."

The report by the Federation, which has a membership of 7,000 companies with some 290 trade associations affiliated to it, stresses that the trade opportunities particularly with China, if neglected, "will be seized by our competitors."

The Federation report said: "We wish immediately to assert that we are by no means satisfied that the full potentialities of East-West trade, such as they are, have been explored by the United Kingdom in recent years.

"It is our view that largely owing to the Korean war and the intensification of the strategic controls, enterprise has been discouraged and a feeling engendered that there is something wrong and unpatriotic about East-West trade, even in those items excluded by the embargoes.

"This is emphatically a feeling to be dispelled.

"Although one may reject inflated notions of the proportions which trade between the United Kingdom and the Soviet bloc and between the United Kingdom and China are likely to assume, it is clear, nevertheless, that there are in fact considerable opportunities which, if neglected by the United Kingdom, will be seized by our competitors."

It recommends, therefore, that British trade in non-strategic items, both with the Soviet bloc and with China, should be vigorously pursued by those who are interested.

"MUSHROOM" BODIES

One of the main reasons why British firms should pursue a vigorous trade policy with China is that, since the Moscow economic conference in April 1952, several bodies have come into prominence — including the British Council for the Promotion of International Trade — which aim at furthering Communist propaganda in the economic sphere, the report says.

These "mushroom" bodies have found it easy to seize the initiative in matters of East-West trade and to imply that they were able to offer special facilities, especially in trade with China.

"It is obviously highly undesirable that British trade interests should be open to exploitation in this manner.

"It is no longer difficult for British manufacturers to send representatives to visit the countries of the Eastern bloc and even the USSR."

3 CONCLUSIONS

The report's three main conclusions are:

1. That trade with countries of the Eastern bloc is likely, permanently, to offer fewer opportunities than before the war, and trade with China has only modest scope for expansion on account of her limited capacity as an exporter and earner of sterling, coupled with the reduced market for Chinese exports.
2. That such opportunities of East-West trade as exist in non-strategic goods should, nevertheless, be pursued without any inhibitions arising from political considerations.
3. That members of the Federation of British Industries in their dealings with Russia, countries of the Eastern bloc, and China should avoid channels which are likely to turn matters of commerce, pure and simple, to account for the purpose of Communist political propaganda.

A spokesman of the Board of Trade said that though they had not seen the full report, they agreed in "broad principle" with the policy of expanding trade with Russia, China and Eastern Europe—apart from strategic goods.

The Board of Trade had always been in agreement with such expansion, he added.—Reuter.

High-Powered Brew

London, Dec. 30.

Instead of coming to boil, a kettle burst into flames on a gas ring in a shop undergoing alterations in Church Street, Blackpool. One of the workmen had accidentally filled it with paraffin for an afternoon tea brew.—China Mail Special.

New Russian MIG's Being Tested

Washington, Dec. 30.

The "Aviation Daily", a technical publication, wrote today that according to its sources abroad, six new Russian "MIG" fighters were being tested at Novosibirsk in western Siberia.

The new types were said to be called MIG 16 and 20 inclusive, but their performances were not specified.

It added that a new twin-jet bomber, EF-150, said to have been made in Uldyrhev, was also being tested in Novosibirsk. The publication concluded that 63 Russian test pilots had already been killed there. — France-Presse.

Huge Steel Tank For New Atomic Sub.

West Milton, New York, Dec. 30.

Probably the largest steel ball ever built in the world, a globe standing higher than an 18-storey building, has been completed in farmland outside Schenectady for experiments on atomic submarines.

The Atomic Energy Commission announced here that this welded "bathtub laboratory" is 225 feet in diameter and took ten months to build.

The General Electric Company which operates the laboratory for the Commission hopes to test in the flooded globe atomic energy-powered submarines like the Sea Wolf now being built at Groton, Connecticut, under actual deep-water conditions.—China Mail Special.

APPEAL
For Temporary Voluntary Workers

Since the Shumshuipo Fire Disaster, the Portland Street Centre of The Hongkong Society for the Protection of Children has been hard pressed in administering to the needs of mothers and babies.

Will ladies of any nationality who can spare a few hours mornings or afternoons kindly call at the Portland Street Centre.

Tel. 53204
H.K.S.P.C.

U.S. Merchant Fleet In A Decline

Washington, Dec. 30.

American merchant ships are carrying only 28 per cent of the freight shipped to and from the United States, according to a statement issued today by President of the American Merchant Marine Institute, Walter E. Maloney.

Portraying a generally gloomy picture of the economic situation of the American Merchant Marine, Mr Maloney said by 1962 or soon afterward 80 per cent of American merchant ships in operation would be "obsolete." He said that no ocean-going passenger or cargo ships were being built in American yards to replace them.

The continuing steady loss of marine freight transport to foreign lines was somewhat offset, however, by the upsurge of passenger travel, Mr Maloney said.

The number of voyagers over the Atlantic Ocean route in such new ships as the United States, Independence, and Constitution, had been on the increase since 1945, he reported, with the number of passengers in 1953 totalling more than 900,000 compared to 751,000 in 1951.

"The number of voyagers over the Atlantic Ocean route is expected to hit a new high in 1954," Mr Maloney said.

OBSOLETE SHIPS

Mr Maloney expressed concern for United States security as a consequence of a declining American merchant marine. He stressed that the bulk of the United States merchant fleet today was made up of ships built hastily during World War II which were destined to become obsolete at roughly the same time.

"A sound long-range Government programme to ensure a strong merchant marine is as essential to the national welfare as a strong army, navy, air force and marine corps," Mr Maloney said.

"Currently, not a single ocean-going passenger or cargo ship is being built in American shipyards for private ownership to replace vessels slated for retirement. New high speed tankers are needed.

"If American vessels carried only 50 per cent of American cargoes, more than half of the current troubles besetting our shipping industry would be overcome."

He said the industry hoped Congress would develop concrete measures to strengthen the U.S. Merchant Marine in 1954.—United Press.

German Pilots Being Trained In U.K.

London, Dec. 30.

Five German pilots who flew with the Luftwaffe during world war two, are to be trained in Britain for their commercial pilots licences.

When they graduate they will become the first pilots of a new German air line and the first Germans to fly in charge of aircraft since the war. None of them has flown since 1945.

They are due in England next Monday.—Reuter.

Thought He Was In Japan —Fined $25

Marietta, Ohio, Dec. 30.

Arnold E. Gaskins, 20, paid a $25 Police Court fine today for a habit he picked up during two years in Japan.

Lapsing into an oriental custom, Gaskins drove down the left side of the street here, hit a parked car, was arrested for failure to have his car under control. — United Press.

Man Flies Higher, And Faster In 1953

London, Dec. 30.

Man flew faster and higher into the sky than ever before in 1953.

And after four years of preparations, 69-year-old Professor Augusto Piccard, first man to ascend to the stratosphere, plunged with his son Jacques two miles into the Mediterranean in a banana-shaped bathescaphe—deeper than any previous ocean descent.

The record 10,344-foot descent into the inky sea blackness off Italy was a fitting climax to a celebrated career of sea and space exploration. Piccard took up deep-sea work when his wife forbade further space travels nearly 20 years ago after he ascended 17,720 metres in a balloon he designed.

The Piccards' plunge in September took them nearly twice as deep as a record set only a month before off the coast of France by two French naval officers using one of Piccard's early model deep-sea machines.

In the sky, two Americans engaged in a fantastic duel to see who could travel the most times the speed of sound. In the process they went faster and higher than man has ever flown before.

These men of the future wear strange rubber suits and weird helmets, and they fly fantastic stub-winged rocket machines. At last reports Major Charles Yeager had an edge for the title of "fastest man on earth" with a flight two and one half times the speed of sound, or 1,650 miles an hour.

80,000 FEET UP

This put him one-half mach up on Scott Crossfield, who only went twice the speed of sound (1,327 miles an hour). Yeager reportedly flew up to 80,000 feet in his record bid this month, but probably did not hit the 83,235 feet reached by yet another pilot, Marine Major Marion Carl, in the second experimental ship.

Another new conquest of matter occurred this year. Man probed deeper into the earth's bowels than ever before.

At a spot called Bakersfield, California, he drilled down more than four miles through the earth's crust in the search for oil—nearly 1,000 feet farther than the previous record. It took two years to get the hole that deep, and they did not find oil anyway.

One of the more hectic competitions of the year occurred back in the prosaic old jet age, the world of "official" speed records set by more practical aircraft than the American rocket ships.

SPEED DUEL

This was a battle between Britain and the United States and for a few months it waxed furious. It started in July when an American colonel set a new speed record with a Sabre-jet.

Then the British took it over with a Hawker Hunter, and not satisfied with that, exceeded the record once again with a Super-Marine Swift. This, it turned out, was only a stage setter for American re-conquest of the controlled flight speed record in a weird triangular shaped craft called a Skyray. The final mark was 752.9 miles an hour.

Somewhat battered but unbowed, the British had the new record all to their own at the year's end. A Canberra bomber flew to 63,668 feet last May for the official altitude mark.

The rocket ships once again do not count because they take off at 30,000 feet from a "mother plane."—United Press.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

SHOWING TO-DAY
IT'S BIGGER & BETTER THAN 'THE CRUEL SEA'

The J. ARTHUR RANK ORGANISATION presents
ALEC GUINNESS · JACK HAWKINS
ANTHONY STEEL
MALTA STORY

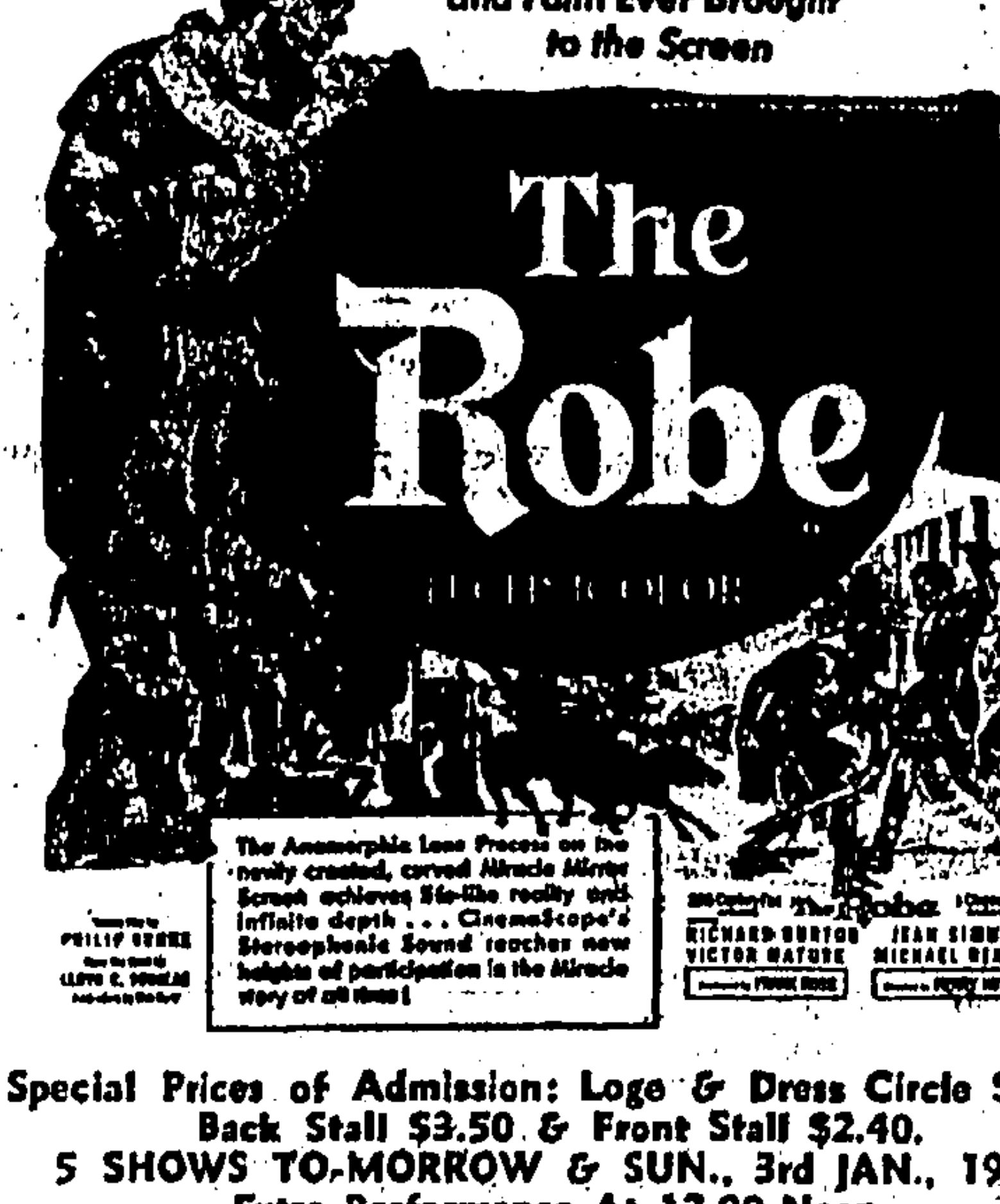
QUEEN'S:- — 5 SHOWS TO-MORROW — Extra Performance At 11.30 a.m.

ROXY & BROADWAY

The ROXY TOWN BOOKING OFFICE has removed temporarily to Room 108, National Bank Bldg., 1st Floor. Tel. 20946. (From 12.00 Noon to 5.00 p.m.)

2nd TRIUMPHANT WEEK !
Owing to length of picture please note change of times:
At 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.45 p.m.

20th Century-Fox presents
THE NEW DIMENSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC MARVEL
YOU SEE WITHOUT GLASSES!
CINEMASCOPE
The Greatest Story of Love and Faith Ever Brought to the Screen


The Robe
The Anamorphic Lens Process on the newly created, curved Miracle Mirror Screen achieves life-like reality and infinite depth ... CinemaScope's Stereophonic Sound reaches new heights of participation in the Miracle story of all time!
RICHARD BURTON
JEAN SIMMONS
VICTOR MATURE
MICHAEL RENNIE

Special Prices of Admission: Loge & Dress Circle $4.70, Back Stall $3.50 & Front Stall $2.40.
5 SHOWS TO-MORROW & SUN., 3rd JAN., 1954,
Extra Performance At 12.00 Noon.
BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!
Complimentary Tickets Are Not Valid For This Picture.

TO-DAY ONLY Cathay AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

SONGS .... DANCES .... BULLFIGHTS ....

EMPIRE TO-MORROW
EXTRA MORNING SHOW AT 12.30 P.M.
Paramount Films Presents
TECHNICOLOR CARTOONS
Admission $1.50 and $1.00.

POP — Sporting evening

I FIND A BOXING PRESS PASS IN ONE POCKET,
A BILLIARD BALL IN THE OTHER!
FRAGMENTS OF DOG TOTE TICKETS IN THE TURNUPS!
WHICH IS THE FALSE CLUB?

She sees clearly all foreground things
CHINESE OPTICAL CO.
OPTICIAN

WEST AGREES TO MEET RUSSIA ON JAN. 25

Need For Reuniting Germany Stressed

London, Dec. 30.

The Western Powers would accept Jan. 25 as the date for the opening of the Four-Power talks in Berlin, it was learned authoritatively tonight.

They said the text of the Western reply to the Soviet note of December 26 on the proposed Foreign Ministers Conference would most likely be handed to the Soviet Foreign Ministry in Moscow on Jan. 1.

Other features of the draft reply now being completed in Paris were said to be firstly, the Western powers would stick to their proposal to have the meeting in the building of the Allied Control Commission in Berlin.

They would agree, however, with the Soviet suggestion to have the issue of the exact location of the conference site discussed by the representatives of the High Commissioners of the Four Powers in Germany.

The same circles added that West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer was being informed of the Western reply.

In Berlin, Reuter reported that Herr Jakob Kaiser, West German Minister for All-German Affairs, said in a New Year broadcast that the coming four-power conference in Berlin, had turned "something like a gleam of hope on Berlin the refugee situation and East Germany."

REUNITED GERMANY

Speaking over the Northwest German Radio in West Berlin, he said that a certain willingness to achieve a lessening of international tension had been apparent during the past few months, and conditions in Europe could be stabilised only if the "central cause of tension," the division of Germany, was overcome.

He said the determination of 70,000,000 Germans who wanted to live in freedom in a reunited state would be decisive at the four-power conference.

"It is aggravating for our cause that we cannot attend the conference ourselves," he said.

"One can only hope that the Western powers will present the German case with all decisiveness, not only for the sake of Germany, but also for the sake of Europe," he added.—Reuter & France-Presse.

Atomic War In Korea? Britain Is Surprised

London, Dec. 30.

Diplomatic quarters here expressed surprise today at the statement of Admiral Sohn Won Il, South Korean Defence Minister, that the United Nations would use atomic weapons if there were renewed Communist aggression in Korea.

A Foreign Office spokesman said the question had not been considered by the United Nations with forces in Korea. He emphasised that no mention of a possible use of atomic weapons had been made by Mr John Foster Dulles, United States Secretary of State, in his press conference yesterday.

He said the United States—only other United Nations country with forces in Korea that possesses atomic weapons—had not given any indication to Britain that she intended to use them if hostilities were resumed.

The British view is that consultations would be required before any drastic decision of this kind was made.

The spokesman said the United States had informed Britain in advance of her intention to withdraw two divisions from her land forces in Korea. He saw no reason to connect this with any American plan to use atomic weapons.

The American denial that the divisions are destined for Indo-China has been noted here. It is pointed out that France has traditionally opposed any participation of American troops in the war against the Vietminh rebels.

France's reason is understood to be that this might provoke open Chinese Communist intervention.—Reuter.

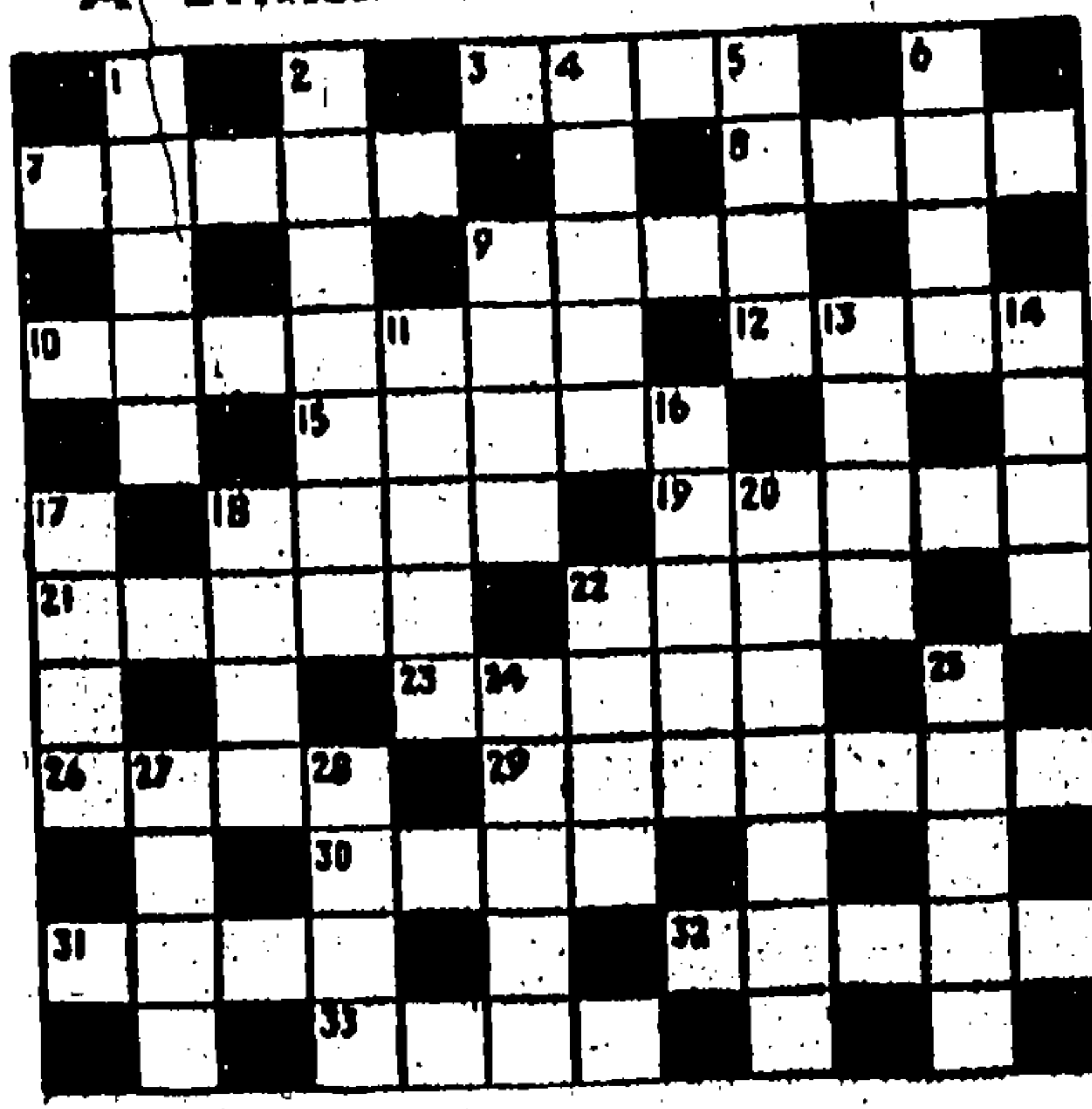
USSR Party Committes

Moscow, Dec. 31.

Communist Party Central Committees in several Soviet Republics have decided to call Party Congresses in February, it was announced today.

The Uzbekistan party will hold its 12th Congress on February 15, Kirghizia its seventh on February 10, Turkmenistan its 12th on February 2, Byelo-Russia on February 10 and Kazakhstan on February 8.—United Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

3 Dross (4).
7 Longed for (5).
8 Eager (4).
9 Disfigures (4).
10 Indicates (7).
12 False (4).
15 Appears (5).
18 Saucy (4).
19 Repasts (5).
21 Form (5).
22 Frolic (4).
23 Make exultant (5).
26 Zone (4).
29 Warded off (7).
30 Uncommon (4).
31 Passport endorsement (4).
32 Unadorned (5).
33 Earl perhaps (4).

DOWN

1 Compare (5).
2 Rests (7).
4 Abyss (5).
5 Multitude (4).
6 Stupor (4).
9 Fitting (4).
11 Concise (5).
13 Pile (4).
14 Disorder (4).
16 Struck (5).
17 Blackleg (4).
18 Bucket (4).
20 Gem (7).
22 Talk wildly (4).
24 Big (5).
25 Evil spirit (5).
27 Way out (4).
28 Snare (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across—1 Coster, 7 Ella, 9 Sabre, 10 Bases, 11 Eden, 13 Attempting, 15 Test, 16 Shod, 19 Surrenders, 22 Stir, 24 Reign, 25 Blend, 26 Burn, 27 Elects. Down—2 Orbit, 3 Therm, 4 Rebate, 5 Resented, 6 Else, 8 Ledge, 12 Notes, 13 [illegible], 14 Enduring, 17 Oiler, 18 Fringe, 20 Noble, 21 [illegible], 23 True.

It Pays To Advertise?

Palo Alto, Calif., Dec. 30.

Mrs Doria Buna got faster results than she expected when she appeared on a radio show and offered pure-bred collie pups to persons who would give them a good home.

Returning home, she found one of the pups missing and a note tacked on her front door reading: "Heard you on the radio. Loved your dogs. Took one for my boys in Los Angeles. Thanks."—United Press.

Russia To Return U.S. Ships

Paris, Dec. 30.

Radio Moscow announced tonight the USSR was ready to send the 186 warships leased to the Soviet Union by the United States during World War II, to foreign ports nearest the United States.

The United States has requested the return of these warships earlier.

The radio said that the return of these ships was part of the overall problem of a Lend Lease settlement.

In a dispatch datelined from Washington, the radio said that the Soviet government's intention was made known to United States officials at a meeting held by representatives of both countries yesterday in Washington.

NAVY LAUNCHES

The radio said that the meeting was held "to discuss the technical details dealing with the return to the United States, in accordance with the desire expressed by the US Government of the 186 ships, principally fast navy launches and landing vessels included among the ships lend-leased to the Soviet Union during World War II."

The radio said, "The question of the return of these ships which as agreed by both parties are not subject to a system of sale to the Soviet Union is part of the general problem of lend-lease settlement."

The radio added that "at the meeting of December 29, the Soviet representative listed the foreign ports nearest to the United States where the Soviet Government was ready to send the ships involved.—France-Presse.

Bertram Mills Opens Its London Season

The festive season opens when six thousand happy children watched the first performance of this year's Bertram Mills' Circus at Olympia, London.—Express Photo.

Forest Fire Threat To U.S. Observatory Eases As Wind Drops

Los Angeles, Dec. 30.

A fire which swept through Angeles National Forest and threatened the Mt Wilson Observatory and $88,000,000 in television transmitters and equipment came almost to a standstill today.

Winds, which had fanned the fires to raging fury, diminished. On a 24-mile front the fire seemed shackled.

The Mt Wilson fire, larger of two blazes, was burning slowly in a canyon immediately below a 5,000-foot rocky ridge where the Observatory, housing the world's second largest telescope, was perched.

The Wilson fire was burning out of control on a six-mile front.

Observers said that the change in wind velocity "definitely lessened" the threat to the Observatory.

Meanwhile, at Albuquerque, New Mexico, the United States Forest Service Office disclosed that 25 Mescalero Apache "Red Rats", making up one of the top forest fire crews of the nation, were on their way to aid in fighting the fires in the Angeles Forest.

Descendants of Mescalero warrior bands with which Geronimo terrorised New Mexico and Arizona generations ago, the Apaches are known in the Forest Service for almost phenomenal speed with which they clear fire lines, and for uncanny skill at back-firing ahead of blazes.

Other Indians, Zunis from Gallup and Zias from Albuquerque, were going to help. New Mexico sent 280 men to the fire on Monday.—United Press.

20,000 ACRES BURNT

The blaze has already destroyed 20,000 acres of timber and forced more than 2,000 people from their homes.

In the Middle West today, an unexpected warm front blunted the edge of a cold wave, while the East suffered a heavy fog.

On the East Coast, an early morning fog reduced visibility to almost zero and snarled air and ground traffic in the New York area. Airline take-offs were delayed and two sections of the Jersey turnpike were closed before sunshine burnt the fog away.

At the height of the fog a New York motorist, thinking he was on a city street, drove off a 300-foot-long pier.

His car sank in 11 feet of water but he was rescued by a Coast Guardsman who heard the splash.

Two tankers collided in the fog and caught fire in the Delaware River off Newcastle, Delaware. The bodies of five crewmen were recovered from the chill waters of the River and four others were missing.

The Middle Western cold wave failed to live up to advance billing, but the temperature sank to 35 degrees below zero at International Falls, Minnesota.

Forecasters, who had predicted a major cold wave, said the warm front popped up unexpectedly on the weather map, bringing a moderating influence. In Chicago the temperature dipped to 10 above zero instead of the expected zero to 10 below.—United Press.

High U.S. Award For Mount Everest Climbers

Washington, Dec. 30.

The National Geographic Society announced today that it had awarded the Hubbard Medal — conferred only 15 times in the past 50 years — to the British expedition which conquered Mount Everest this year.

Mr Gilbert Grosvenor, Society President, said that Sir John Hunt, leader of the expedition, and Sir Edmund Hillary would receive the medal in Washington on February 11.

Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tensing were the first men to scale Everest.

The Hubbard Medal has earlier been awarded to distinguished Arctic and Antartic explorers.

The Society said the medal to be presented to the expedition would bear the inscription: "Awarded to the British Everest expedition for extraordinary courage and skill, and outstanding service to geography in the triumphant conquest of earth's highest mountain, May 29, 1953."—Reuter.

Egypt Recalls Diplomats: U.K. Interest

London, Dec. 30.

Political circles in Britain showed great interest tonight in the present diplomatic activity in Cairo where the Egyptian Ambassadors to India, Pakistan and the Soviet Union were to arrive shortly to confer with their government and other diplomats.

The Egyptian Ambassadors to London and Washington have already arrived in Cairo. These consultations were heralded in Cairo as preceding a basic revision of Egyptian foreign policy.

British circles close to Whitehall said that the possible adoption by Egypt of a "neutralist" policy, between the East and the West, could not fail to affect directly relations between Britain and Egypt.

IN CASE OF WAR

These circles said that negotiations between Britain and Egypt on the future of the Suez Canal zone, which could resume shortly, excluded any idea of Egyptian neutrality in the "cold war."

The object of these negotiations would be, in fact, to decide on the part each of the two countries would play in case of war.

These circles considered that a programme of Egyptian "neutrality" would be aimed at inducing Britain to make concessions to Egypt, and at inducing the United States to bring pressure to bear on Britain for the same ends.

They added, however, that President Mohammed Naguib might, on the other hand, wish to break off all contacts with Britain and give up the idea of a negotiated agreement on the evacuation of the Suez Canal base.—France-Presse.

"Severe Exertion Not Likely To Harm You"

London, Dec. 31.

Britain's Olympic mile runner, Roger Bannister, said today that there was little evidence of any permanent harm ever being caused by severe exertion.

Mr Bannister was writing in the Practitioner, British medical weekly, to a symposium on stress —"the baffling health problem estimated to be the cause of the complaints of 30 percent of the patients seen in general practice."

Eight leading medical specialists and a Bishop contributed to the discussion.

Dr C. J. Gavey, heart specialist at Westminster Hospital, said patients "exercise tolerance" was the best guide to what his heart could stand.

"Life is for living. Risks are part of it and should not be denied to willing cardiac patients," he added.

Sir Heneage Ogilvie, Joint Editor of the Practitioner and consulting surgeon at Guys hospital, said the best way to prevent stress was not to suffer it.

"The surest preventive of stress is leisure," he added.

The Bishop of Manchester, Dr W. D. L. Green, said "man attempts to escape from the tension in which his anxiety involves him, either by aiming at security through pride and pretension, or, flee by a retreat into animal sensuality. Of these two alternatives, the first is the most dangerous and disastrous.

"There is inherent in human nature a tension, a stress, anxiety, which no improvement of external conditions, individual or social, can cure. I believe that not a few seek relief in medical aid and psychotherapy. Certainly sympathy and understanding and a capacity to listen can and do temporarily alleviate the strain but can they do more? [illegible] Mail Special.

A TRIANGLE RESOLVED:

Miss Hutton Gets Her Man

New York, Dec. 30.

Miss Barbara Hutton, the Woolworth heiress, and Mr Portfirio Rubirosa, Dominican Republican diplomat, were married here today in a civil ceremony — her fifth marriage, his fourth.

This was despite the sudden intrusion of Miss Zsa Zsa Gabor, a film star, who announced yesterday from Las Vegas, Nevada, that Rubirosa really loved her and, as proof, had blackened her eye.

They were married in a 10-minute ceremony in Spanish and English in the Manhattan home of Dr J. Salazar, Dominican Consul-General, who performed the ceremony.

The ceremony was attended by a few close friends—and the reporters, of whom about 100 had waited all day in the lobby of the hotel where the bride was staying.

It was the second time Mr Rubirosa has married one of the world's richest women. One of his previous wives was Doris Duke, the heiress.

"I loved him from the moment I saw him," Miss Hutton told a press conference only an hour before the ceremony.

She complained that nobody ever believed that anybody loved her for herself alone and vowed that her marriage to Mr Rubirosa would last.

Mr Rubirosa said riches meant nothing to him; he had plenty of money of his own and his big desire was to make his new wife happy.—Reuter.

Record Exports Of Aircraft By U.K. In 1953

London, Dec. 30.

British aircraft exports reached a new record of £84 million this year, the Society of British Aircraft Constructors announced today.

The 1952 figure was £44 million.

Orders booked for the new British jet and turbojet planes total £64 million.

The industry's labour force increased by 25,000 to 225,000 during the year.—China Mail Special.

Daring Love Tales!
as millions have enjoyed
DECAMERON NIGHTS
starring
JOAN FONTAINE · LOUIS JOURDAN
with GODFREY TEARLE · JOAN COLLINS · BINNIE BARNES
TECHNICOLOR

LEE Theatre GREAT WORLD

★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

★ 5 SHOWS TO-MORROW ★

LEE at 12.00 Noon, 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

GREAT WORLD at 12.30, 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

Proudly Announcing

NEW PROGRAMME TODAY
2 SHOWS DAILY: At 6.00 & 9.00 p.m.

SPECTACULAR & BETTER THAN EVER!
THRILLING & SENSATIONAL!

NEW ARTISTS JUST ARRIVED PER S.S. ASIA

SEE
THE WORLD FAMOUS
5 ELWARDOS
"THE COMET-PEOPLE"

SEE
THE
3 RUDOLFOS
in their
THRILLING
AIR-SENSATIONS

SEE
10 NEW THRILLING & AMAZING ITEMS

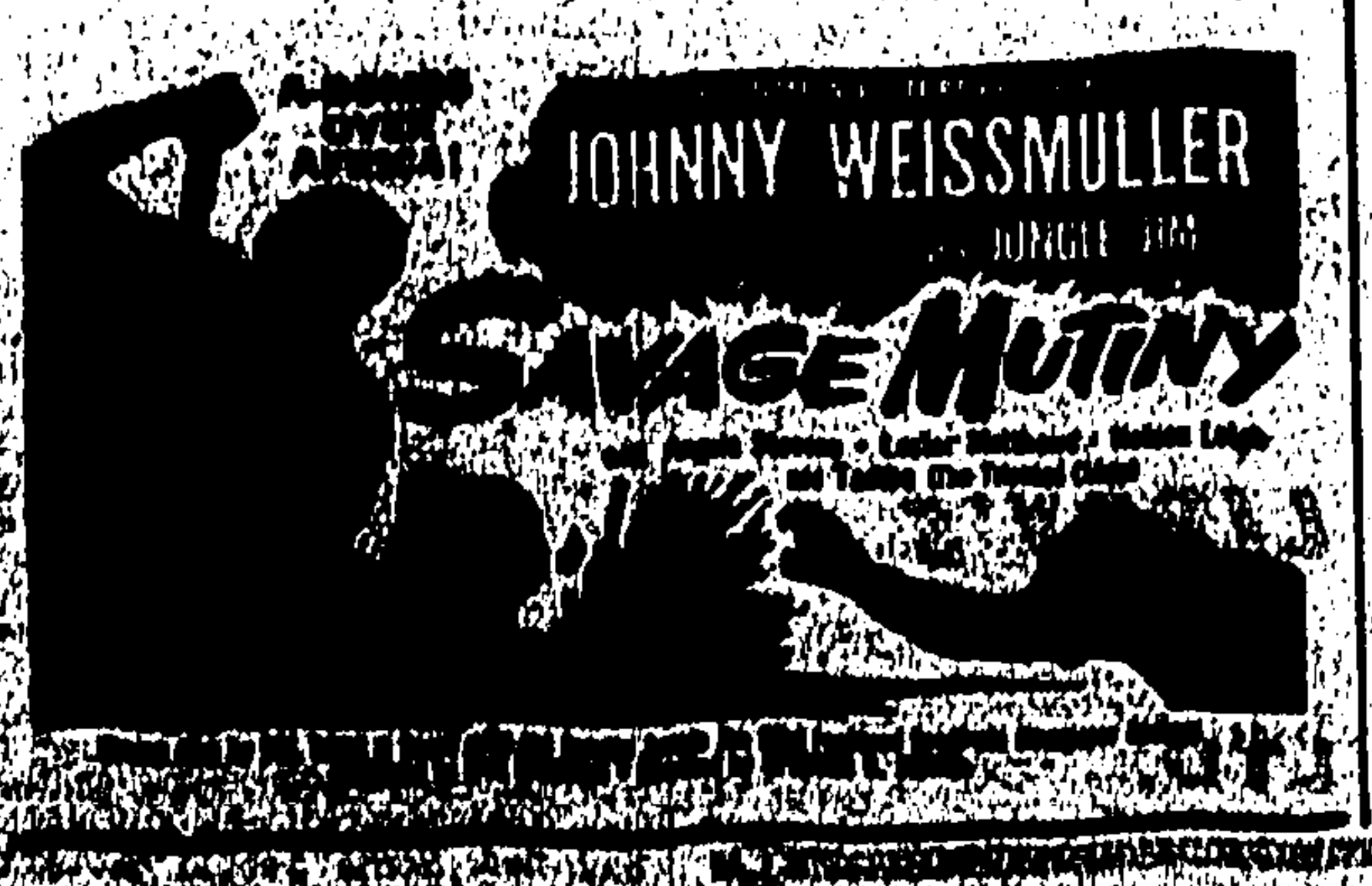
POPULAR PRICES FOR EVERYONE!

BOOKING:
10 a.m. to 12 noon
WING HONG [illegible]
Hongkong Hotel Bldg.
[illegible]

[illegible] SPECIAL
[illegible] $10.00 [illegible]
Sect. 1 $7.30 [illegible]
Sect. 2 $4.80 $3.00
Sect. 3 $2.40 $1.50 [illegible]

Please [illegible]

SHOWING TO-DAY MAJESTIC AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.



★ DON IDDON'S DIARY ★

AMERICANS NOW WANT BIG VALUE FOR SMALL OUTLAY

New York, Tuesday.

MACYS, which is probably the world's biggest store, has a huge sale of English imports—"Below today's wholesale cost," the announcement says—and I don't think our goods have been selling as well as they might.

A British motor-car distributor called on me the other day and asked for help. He said: "I am in charge of sales for ——, but I am beginning to despair. Americans like bright colours in their cars, and I've told Coventry this over and over again, but all I get are black and grey and brown cars.

"When I complain, my boss says, 'What's good enough for Australia and New Zealand is good enough for the U.S.—anyway you sell only a few thousand cars, just a few days' production.'

"What they don't realise at home is that I and others like me could sell far more cars and other British products if we supplied what the Americans want."

Sharp economy

I AM inclined to agree. I have been trying out some American cars this past week or two and have noticed that even reasonably priced models have automatic gear-change, electrically operated windows and seats, and that power steering and power brakes (two wonderful developments) don't cost too much extra.

Some American manufacturers claim they offer "twice the value of British cars for two-thirds the price." This is an exaggeration; but I don't see the all-out effort by all our motor-car men that is needed to garner the dollars.

Americans today want big value for small outlay. Economy is sharp in the American air. President Eisenhower is cutting right, left, and centre. He is slashing Government spending on everything, lopping off $5,000,000,000 from his armaments budget and wielding the axe all along the line.

These moves are welcomed by most people, and the President's popularity is high and mounting. Mr. Eisenhower, after earlier floundering, has now expanded his public and Press relations.

For the first time in history, the full recorded text of his Press conference was broadcast to the American people. Ike, in other words, held his Press conference in the American living-room.

Ike and the Press

SOON the President plans to have his Press conference televised so that the public will be able to see as well as hear him in action with the Press.

Newsreels are being encouraged, publishers and editors are being wooed and won. The old rule transcript, calling for use of the third person when quoting the President, is to be scrapped. These are great gains from the newspaperman's point of view.

And, curiously, they come just when Sir Winston Churchill is suggesting that it might be necessary to have greater secrecy—to keep the Press out of international conferences—at future big and little meetings.

I have attended many Press conferences, and there is no one approaching Sir Winston at handling them and guiding them. But the Prime Minister has never relished them as did Roosevelt and Truman, and as Eisenhower is beginning to do.

For the first time for several months Sir Winston is receiving slightly acidulous treatment from the wayward Press. Should he come to Washington or New York for conferences and insist upon a news black-out and the barring of the Press the reaction would be hostile.

I've had quite a few letters from Australia and New Zealand lately. Eric Dumbleton, editor of the Auckland Star, writes that interest in the royal visit is mounting to "fervour." He asks what Americans think about the royal tour.

Frankly, it has been reported scantily here, tucked away obscurely except by the picture magazines. There was far more in the American Press about the Canadian trip when the Queen was Princess.

Holiday bookings along Broadway in this spangled city are good, according to showmen. "Oh Men, Oh Women," starring a rejuvenated Franchot Tone, is a new hit and likely to last.

"The Prescott Proposals," with Katharine Cornell, and all about the United Nations, disappointed the critics but appeared to please the public.

With the stars

CLARK GABLE is holding out against signing a new contract with M-G-M. After conferences in London and here Gable still wants to choose his own film stories.

Greer Garson is going to England again to make "The Case of the Journeying Boy," from the Michael Innes novel.

Deborah Kerr will star in the filming of Graham Greene's "The End of the Affair," but will go to London first in her play "Tea and Sympathy."

Zsa-Zsa Gabor says: "During all our marriage George Sanders and I had only one thing in common — we both loved George."

American scientists score a great new success, discovering the secret of Invisibility. Misgivings are aroused by the sudden disappearance of the Soviet Embassy. Has Russia got it too?
puss puss
LOW

OLD LOW'S ALMANACK— PROPHECIES FOR 1954

World Copyright by arrangement with the Manchester Guardian

Chapter 39 of Sir Winston Churchill's "Triumph And Tragedy"

SPLIT OVER POLAND'S NEW FRONTIERS

WE did not recur to Poland [at Potsdam] till our fifth meeting, on July 21. The Soviet delegation wanted Poland's western frontier to run to the west of Swinemunde, as far as the Oder river, leaving Stettin on the Polish side, then up the river Oder to the estuary of the Western Neisse, and from there along its course to Czechoslovakia.

Mr Truman recalled that we had agreed to divide Germany into four zones of occupation, based on her 1937 frontiers. The British and the Americans had moved their troops back into their new zones, but apparently the Soviet Government had given the Poles a zone of their own without consulting us. Unless this zone counted as part of Germany how could we settle reparations and all the other German questions?

Stalin denied giving the Poles a zone of their own. He declared that the Soviet Government had not been able to stop them. The German population had retreated westwards with the German armies. Only the Poles remained. The Soviet armies need someone to administer their rear areas. They were not accustomed to fight and clear territory and set up their own administration at the same time. Why not let the Poles do it?

"We ought to keep to the zones we agreed at Yalta," said the President. "If we don't, reparations and all sorts of other matters will be difficult to settle."

"We are not worried about reparations," said Stalin.

"The United States will get none anyhow," answered Mr Truman, "but they will also try to avoid paying anything."

"Nothing definite was fixed at Yalta about the western frontier," said Stalin. "None of us are bound."

★

THIS was true. The President said he did not think we could settle the matter now. It would have to wait for the Peace Conference.

"It will be still more difficult," said Stalin, "to restore a German administration."

"You can use a Polish one in your own zone of occupation in Germany," said the President.

"That is all very well," was Stalin's answer, "but the Germans have fled and the natural and indeed the only solution is to set up a friendly administration of Poles. This does not commit us to any particular boundary, and if the Conference cannot agree about one, it can remain in suspense."

"Can it?" I interrupted. "These are very important areas for feeding Germany."

"Who will produce the grain?" countered Stalin. "There is nobody left to plough the land except Poles."

"What has become of the Germans?" we both asked.

"They have fled."

I had taken little part in these interchanges, but now I spoke. How, I asked, were we to feed the Germans who had fled? A quarter of Germany's arable land would be lost. If the area suggested by Britain and America was given to Poland about three or four million Poles would have to be moved; but the Soviet plan would mean shifting more than eight million Germans.

Would there be room for them in what was left of Germany? I was not even sure that Stalin was right that all the Germans had fled. Some people thought that more than two million were still there.

Stalin thereupon challenged my figures, saying that the Germans had called up many men from these regions. The rest had fled. Not a single German remained in the area which he proposed to give to the Poles. The Germans had quitted their lands between the Oder and the Vistula. The Poles were cultivating them, and they were not likely to let the Germans come back.

★

THE President still wanted us to leave the western frontier to the Peace Conference, but I persisted. Poland, I said, deserved compensation for the land east of the Curzon Line which she was going to lose to Russia, but she was now claiming more than she had given up. If there were three or four million Poles east of the Curzon Line, then room should be made in the west.

So considerable a movement of population would shock the people of Great Britain, but a move of 8¼ million would be more than I could defend. Compensation should bear some relation to loss. It would do Poland no good to acquire so much extra territory.

If the Germans had run away from it, they should be allowed to go back. The Poles had no right to risk a catastrophe in feeding Germany. We did not want to be left with a vast German population who were cut off from their sources of food. The Ruhr was in our zone, and if enough food could not be found for the inhabitants we should have conditions like the German concentration camps.

"Germany has always had to import food," said Stalin. "Let her buy it from Poland."

"His Majesty's Government," I answered, "can never admit that East German territory overrun in the war has become Polish." "But Poles inhabit it," said Stalin, "and cultivate the land. We can't compel them to produce bread and give it away to the Germans." I protested that these were not normal times.

★

THE Poles were apparently selling Silesian coal to Sweden, while Great Britain was having the worst fuel shortage of any time during the war. Food and fuel from the Germany of the 1937 frontiers should be available for all Germans within them, irrespective of the zone in which they lived.

Stalin asked who was to produce the coal. The Germans were not producing it, but the Poles were. The German proprietors of the Silesian coalfield had fled. If they came back, the Poles would probably hang them.

I reminded him of his remark at a previous meeting about not allowing memories of injuries or feelings of retribution to govern our policy, and I asked him to realise what we were faced with, namely, a large number of Germans dumped in our zone who could only be fed from the area which the Poles had occupied.

Stalin said that his remarks before did not apply to war criminals. "But not all the 8¼ million who have fled are criminals," I answered. He then said he meant the German owners of the Silesian coal mines. Russia herself was short of coal and was buying it from Poland.

Here Mr Truman supported me. It seemed, he said, to be an accomplished fact that East Germany had been given to Poland, but it could not be treated separately when it came to reparations and supplies. He was quite ready to discuss Poland's western boundary, even though it could only be settled at the Peace Conference, but he was not prepared to see sections of Germany given away piecemeal.

Stalin persisted that only the Poles could cultivate these areas. The Russians were short of labour and there were no Germans. We could either stop all production or let the Poles do it. The Poles had lost a valuable coal basin to Russia, and had taken the Silesian one in its place.

★

I POINTED out that Poles had always worked in the Silesian mines, and I did not object to their doing so as agents of the Russian Government, but I did object to Silesia being treated as though it were already part of Poland.

Stalin persisted that it was impossible to upset the present state of affairs. The Germans themselves had been short of labour. As the Russians advanced into Germany they had found industries employing forcibly deported Italians, Bulgarians, and other nationalities, including Russians, and Ukrainians. When the Red Army arrived, these foreign labourers had gone home.

Enormous numbers of men had been mobilised in Germany, and most of them were either killed or captured. The vast German industries had had few German workers, but depended on foreign labour, which had now melted away. They must either be closed down or the Poles must be given a chance to run them.

What had happened was not the result of deliberate policy, but a spontaneous course of events. And only the Germans were to blame for it. He agreed that the Polish Government's proposals would make difficulties for Germany.

"And for the British as well," I interjected. But Stalin said he did not mind making difficulties for the Germans. It was his policy, and it would stop them starting another war. It was better to make difficulties for Germans than for Poles, and the less industry in Germany the more markets for Britain.

★

WHEN we met next day, on Sunday, July 22, we were no nearer agreement. I repeated and emphasised the more important reasons why his Majesty's Government could not accept the Polish demands, and I set them forth as follows:

(i) The final decision on all boundary questions could only be reached at the Peace Conference. (Stalin said he agreed with this.)

(ii) It would not be advantageous for the Polish nation to take over so large an area as they were now asking for.

(iii) It would rupture the economic unity of Germany, and throw too heavy a burden on the Powers occupying the western zones, particularly as to food and fuel.

(iv) The British had grave moral scruples about vast movements of population. We could accept a transfer of Germans from Eastern Germany equal in number to the Poles from Eastern Poland transferred from east of the Curzon Line—say 2 million to 3 million; but a transfer of 8 million or 9 million Germans, which was what the Polish request involved, was too many and would be entirely wrong.

(v) The information about the number of Germans in the disputed areas was not agreed. The Soviet Government said that they had all gone. The British Government believed that great numbers, running into millions, were still there. We, of course, had not been able to check these figures on the spot, but we must accept them until they were shown to be wrong.

Stalin still insisted that Germany could get enough fuel from the Ruhr and the Rhineland and that there were no Germans left in the territory which the Poles had occupied.

Considerable discussion followed about referring the whole matter to the Council of Foreign Ministers. The President said he could not understand why it was so urgent. It could not be finally settled till the Peace Conference. We had had a most useful and helpful discussion, and the best course was to remit the question to the Foreign Ministers.

★

I PROTESTED that it was very urgent. Grievances would remain unremedied. The Poles who had assigned to themselves or had been assigned to this area would be digging themselves in and making themselves masters. The Conference ought to make some sort of a decision, or at least we should know where we stood.

It was no use asking the Poles to a discussion with the Council of Foreign Ministers in London if the three Powers could not agree now. In the meantime the whole burden of fuel and food problems would remain, and would fall particularly on the British, whose zone had poor food supplies and the largest population.

Why not have a line which the Polish authorities could provisionally occupy as Poles, and agree that west of that line any Poles would be working as the agents of the Soviet Government? We agreed that the new Poland should advance its western frontier to what might be called the line of the Oder. The difference between Stalin and myself was how far this extension should reach.

The words "line of the Oder" had been used at Teheran. This was not an exact expression, but the British delegation had a line which could be considered in some detail by the Foreign Secretaries. I pointed out that I had only used the words "line of the Oder" as a general expression, and that it could not be properly explained without a map. But I begged my colleagues to persevere.

What would happen if the Foreign Secretaries met in September and discussed Poland and, again reached a deadlock just when the winter was upon us? Berlin, for instance, used to get some of its coal from Silesia.

"No, from Saxony," said Stalin.

"About 40 percent of its hard coal came from Silesia," I answered.

At this point, Mr Truman read us the crucial passage of the Yalta declaration, namely:

The three heads of Governments consider that the eastern frontier of Poland should follow the Curzon Line, with digressions from it in some regions of five to eight kilometres in favour of Poland. They recognise that Poland must receive substantial accessions of territory in the north and west.

They feel that the opinion of the new Polish Provisional Government of National Unity should be sought in due course on the extent of these accessions, and that the final delimitation of the western frontier of Poland should thereafter await the Peace Conference.

★

THIS, he said, was what President Roosevelt, Stalin and I had decided, and he himself was in complete accord with it. Five countries were now occupying Germany instead of four. It would have been easy enough to have agreed upon a zone for Poland, but he did not like the way the Poles had occupied this area without consulting the "Big Three." He understood Stalin's difficulties, and he understood mine. It was the way in which it had been done that mattered.

"Very well," said Stalin. "We bound ourselves at Yalta to consult the Polish Government. This has been done. We can either approve their proposals or summon them to the Conference to hear what they have to say. We ought to settle the matter here, but as we cannot agree then it had better go to the Council of Foreign Ministers."

At Teheran, he said, Roosevelt and I had wanted the frontier to run along the river Oder to where the Eastern Neisse joined it, while he had insisted on the line of the Western Neisse. Moreover, Mr Roosevelt and I had planned to leave Stettin and Breslau on the German side of the frontier. Were we to settle the question or put it off?

"If the President," he added, "thinks anyone is to blame, it is not so much the Poles as the Russians and the circumstances."

"I understand your point, and that is exactly what I meant," answered Mr Truman.

★

MEANWHILE I had pondered over these questions and I now said that we should invite the Poles to come to the Conference at once. Stalin and the President agreed, and we resolved to send them an invitation.

[On July 24 and 25 the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary saw the representatives of the Polish Provisional Government several times and impressed on them the importance, both of moderating their claims and of permitting free elections and free institutions.

His appeal, he concludes, came to nothing—and "the world has yet to measure the serious consequences" which I fore-cast."]

(Continued on Saturday)

(World Copyright reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part in any language strictly prohibited.)

ALL THE BEST FOR 1954
... and the Best for Baby is
Libby's
HOMOGENIZED
BABY FOOD
MEATS - FRUITS - VEGETABLES
Libby's special method of homogenization breaks up food cells in solid foods—releases nourishment. No sieve or strainer can do this.
ALWAYS LOOK FOR LIBBY'S
Sole Agents:
DODWELL & CO., LTD.

Colonel UP and Mr. DOWN ... by Walter

• BY • THE • WAY •

by Beachcomber

THE Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, than which ... was told recently that out of 220 fat children only 20 had fat relatives.

Further research would probably reveal that the 200 fat children with thin relatives were more maladjusted than the 20 with fat relatives, and that 47 thin grandmothers with fat grandchildren preferred their fat daughters' thin nieces to the fat uncles of their fat first cousins' fat sons. If a godfather who is not a relative is fat it is his own business. So it is if he is thin.

Et cetera

WE left Strabismus and Grisch drinking great bowls of chuhuahua (the fermented juice of the gomo berry). Late last night the following cryptic message was received from them. *Fo fo fo fo fo fo fo fo fo fa fo fo fo fo fo fo fo* repeat end message repeat *fo fo fo* et cetera end *message* end *message* et cetera fo fo repeat message *fo fo fo fo fo fo fo* repeat end et cetera *fo fo.*

An authority on the dialect of the Guajara Indians said: "There is no such word as fo in their language. It may be a misprint for ho, which can mean a heap of bolzil, or, alternatively, the hind leg of a bical." That does not help us much. Nor does the fact that these Guajara banquets often go on for months.

Evolution upside down

A WELL-KNOWN ape said yesterday, in an interview, "If the Piltdown simian jaw is only 50 years old and the skull 500,000 years old, it proves that apes are descended from man. And what good does that do us?" "Sic vos non vobis mellificatis, apes," retorted a reporter.

In passing

THERE seems to be an odd idea that a Hungarian football victory will bring tears of simple delight to Russia's eyes, and make her more tender and gentle in her international dealings. Unfortunately we beat Hungary at ping-pong (which I refuse to call "table-tennis"), and this will harden Russian hearts again in these circumstances. I suggest certain changes in the very strong tiddleywinks team which is to meet the Bulgarians. It is our patriotic duty to lose that match, and also the halma match against Czechoslovakia.

Marginal note

"THE illuminated advertising signs," said Lord Brabazon the other day, "are the only things which make London fit to look at at night." On this subject Chesterton once remarked how beautiful the signs would be—if one could not read.

YOUR BIRTHDAY ... By STELLA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

BORN today, you have one of those minds which is electric in its speed and versatile in its ability to grasp a multitude of ideas all at once. You also have the gift of being able to express them through the medium of art, either with the pen or brush. You are fond of music and may play some musical instrument rather better than average. You could become professional if you wished and if you started your training young enough.

Your taste is impeccable and although you may not agree with popular opinion at all times, you will stand up for your likes and eventually the world will catch up with you. You are fond of reading and as a child will be something of a book-worm—preferring to be alone and quiet with a book rather than out playing boisterously with the other children.

You have a loving and affectionate nature but must be sure to wed someone who understands your artistic temperament. It is likely that your art or your profession will bring you a comfortable living but unless you are pushed into it by a good, commercial manager, you are not out to make a fortune. You could, if you were willing to try. Your personality is one which attracts people into your own orbit. You will probably become an influence upon the ideas of your times. Your fame should long outlive you.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1954

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—You may have some work that has to be done before you can enjoy the week-end ahead. Finish it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—You can be very busy today even if it is only social activity, so be calm and reserved with all.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Begin the new year and the new month with general, constructive activity. Make important plans today.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Not a day to rush your plans into action. Take a little more time for careful consideration and decision.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Perhaps you can indulge in your favourite hobby and have an especially pleasurable time today.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Caution is needed, especially if your nerves are tired and a little ragged. Caution avoids accident.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—If asked to give moral support to a friend who is attempting something new in his work, do so by all means.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Don't jump to conclusions. Investigate a new project before committing yourself on it too impulsively.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—If interested in real estate, this is a good time for you to make serious investigations.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Initiative exerted in just the right directions today will secure exactly what you want. Try it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Perhaps a good lecture or a concert will wind up this first day of the new year happily for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—If the rest of the family wants to make New Year's calls—and you don't—compromise a little.

BORN on the first day of the new year, you have a great deal of energy, determination and strength of will to get exactly what you want out of life. Your ties of blood kin are exceptionally strong and you will subvert all else in offering your help when needed. You care little for the opinion of others for you are independent in thought and action. You will always do what you want to do. If others wish to follow—all well and good. But avoid letting your dogged determination turn into stubbornness. Life is a combination of give and take—and not all the taking should be on your side. Learn to give a little more.

Although you have more than average capacity for money making, you are not astute when it comes to taking care of business detail and hence must be very careful if you go into partnership or make a contract. Be sure to read all the fine print or you may find that you have not been quite as smart as at first you thought you were!

Your emotional nature is strong and an early marriage is predicted. You are inclined to be somewhat dictatorial as the head of your own household and usually get exactly what you want. Your circle of acquaintances will be large for you have a genial, magnetic personality which draws people into your orbit.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Use today and tomorrow for restful recuperation from your festivities. Prepare for the days ahead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Relax as much as you can, but give a serious thought to the long-range plans of the new year.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—If next week looks as if it might be a very busy one—and it probably will be—get ready for it now.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Keep your eyes open for the main chance but be cautious about which new opportunity you select.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—A proper balance of rest and recreation this week-end will put you in fine fettle for next week.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—This is not the time to be overly critical of others—especially of members of your own family.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—Balance the rest of your week-end wisely between recreation and finishing necessary work at home.

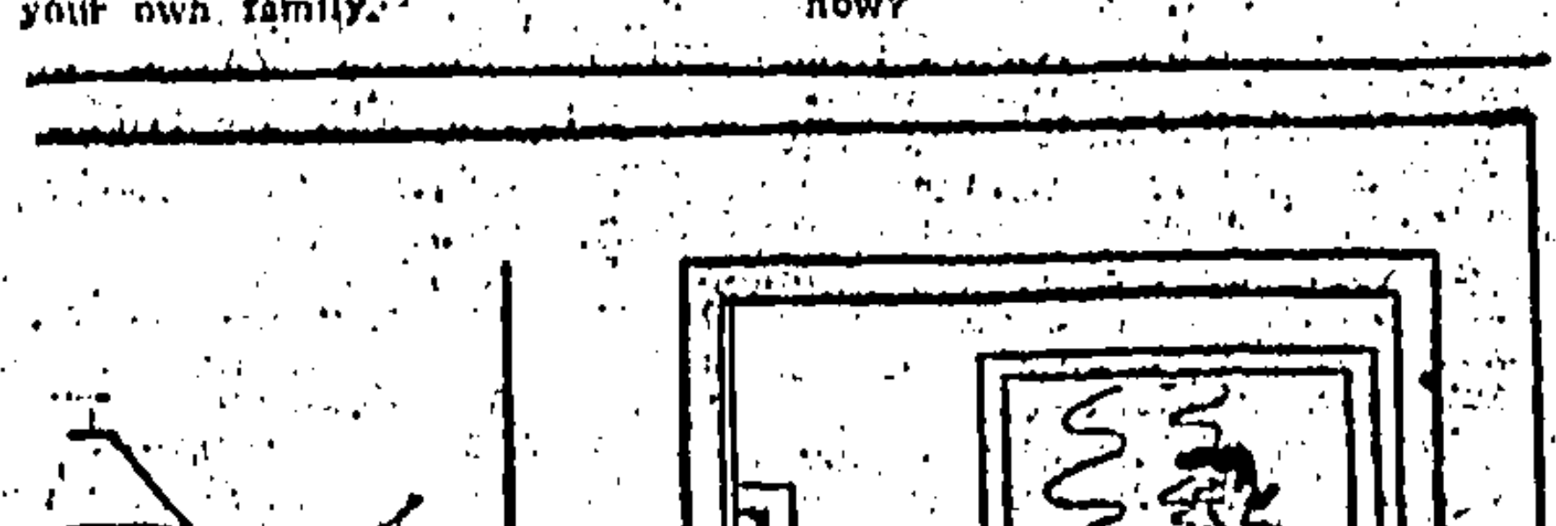
LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Do those jobs around the house which you have been postponing for some free week-end. This is it!

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Manual dexterity on some jobs around the house may save you time and real money. Learn to do it yourself!

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—In solving a present problem, think up some ingenious plan and then follow it through with action.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—If you are getting out of town for the day, stay as clear as possible of heavy traffic conditions. Play safe!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—If you have a good cash reserve for that proverbial rainy day, it may never arrive. If not, why not start now?



• JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Trappy Hand Tests Your Imagination

By OSWALD JACOBY

"WHAT is par on this hand?" asks my friend and critic, C. M. Smith, of Madison, Wis. "Maybe South shouldn't bid it so strongly, but if he does get to three no-trump by some such bidding, what should happen?

"West opens the nine of spades, and in the average game nobody would have a problem. Dummy would play low, and East would win with the king. East would eventually get his two red aces and some sort of fourth trick, but South would make game and rubber with nine tricks.

"If East happened to be very clever, he would play the jack of spades at the first trick instead of winning it with the king. South would win with the queen of spades and go after one of the red suits.

"East would take his first red ace and shoot back the king of spades to dummy's ace. East would get in with his second red ace in time to lead his low spade, whereupon West would set the contract with three spade tricks.

"If South happened to be just as clever as East, he would refuse the first spade trick when East played the jack. South would have to play the hand very carefully from that point on, because he would make only one spade trick, but he would eventually catch East in a complicated squeeze and end-play, forcing him to lead hearts to dummy.

NORTH (D) 1
♠A 10
♥K Q J 8
♦6 5 3
♣A Q 5 2

WEST
♠9 8 7 6 5
♥9 6
♦4 2
♣10 9 8 7

EAST
♠K J 3
♥A 10 4 2
♦A J 10 9
♣J 6

SOUTH
♠Q 4 2
♥7 5 3
♦K Q 8 7
♣K 4 3

North-South vul.

North	East	South	West
1♣	Double	Redbl	Pass
Pass	1♦	Double	1♠
Pass	Pass	1 N.T.	Pass
3 N.T.	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead—♠9

"But if South happened to be really clever, he wouldn't go in for all of this complicated business. He would simply win the first trick in dummy with the ace of spades and go about the business of developing the red suits. He would easily wind up with three club tricks and two tricks in each of the other suits.

"How do you think the hand ought to be played?"

I think declarer should locate all of the high cards quite easily because of the double of one club. Hence he should put up dummy's ace of spades at the first trick to avoid complications.

East should drop the king of spades under dummy's ace and should return the jack of spades when he takes the first red ace. If South makes the mistake of winning the second spade trick with the queen, East will be able to lead his low spade when he eventually gets in with the second red ace—and West will get three spade tricks. But South should refuse the second spade trick and make his contract.

CARD Sense

Q—The bidding has been:

North	East	South	West
1 Heart	Pass	1 Spade	Pass
1 N.T.	Pass	?	

You, South, hold: Spades K-J-8-7, Hearts 9-3-2, Diamonds Q-J-4, Clubs K-Q-2. What do you do?

A—Bid two no-trump. Your partner should have 12 to 15 points in high cards. He will pass with only 12 or 13, but will go on to game with 14 or 15 points.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades K-J-8-7, Hearts 9-3-2, Diamonds K-Q-4, Clubs K-Q-2. What do you do?

Answer Saturday

WOMANSENSE

Waistline, Theme of 1953 Fashion Story

By Dorothy Barkley

London.

THE beginning of a new year is fashion's stocktaking time.

The models nobody wanted last year are collected together and sold for a song in the bargain basements of the big stores. The old designs go at cut prices in the showrooms while the designers themselves work out the new "line."

This year's fashion story has been pinned to the waistline. At the beginning of the year it had disappeared altogether beneath straight jackets, barrel coats and the like. Now, with princess dresses and moulded suits to the fore, it's back again as a fashionable asset.

The two suits pictured here illustrate the way in which fashion has changed this year. The suit on the left, styled at the beginning of 1953, has the dropped shoulder seam, no collar, no waist, and the jacket is belted at hip level. The suit on the right, designed recently, has the rounded shoulder line and skin-tight waist.

• •

There are a few fashions we're glad to see dying with the Old Year.

The cloche hat is one. It was attractive so long as it was a genuine fashion, but its attraction soon palled when it was used as a publicity stunt by a visiting film star.

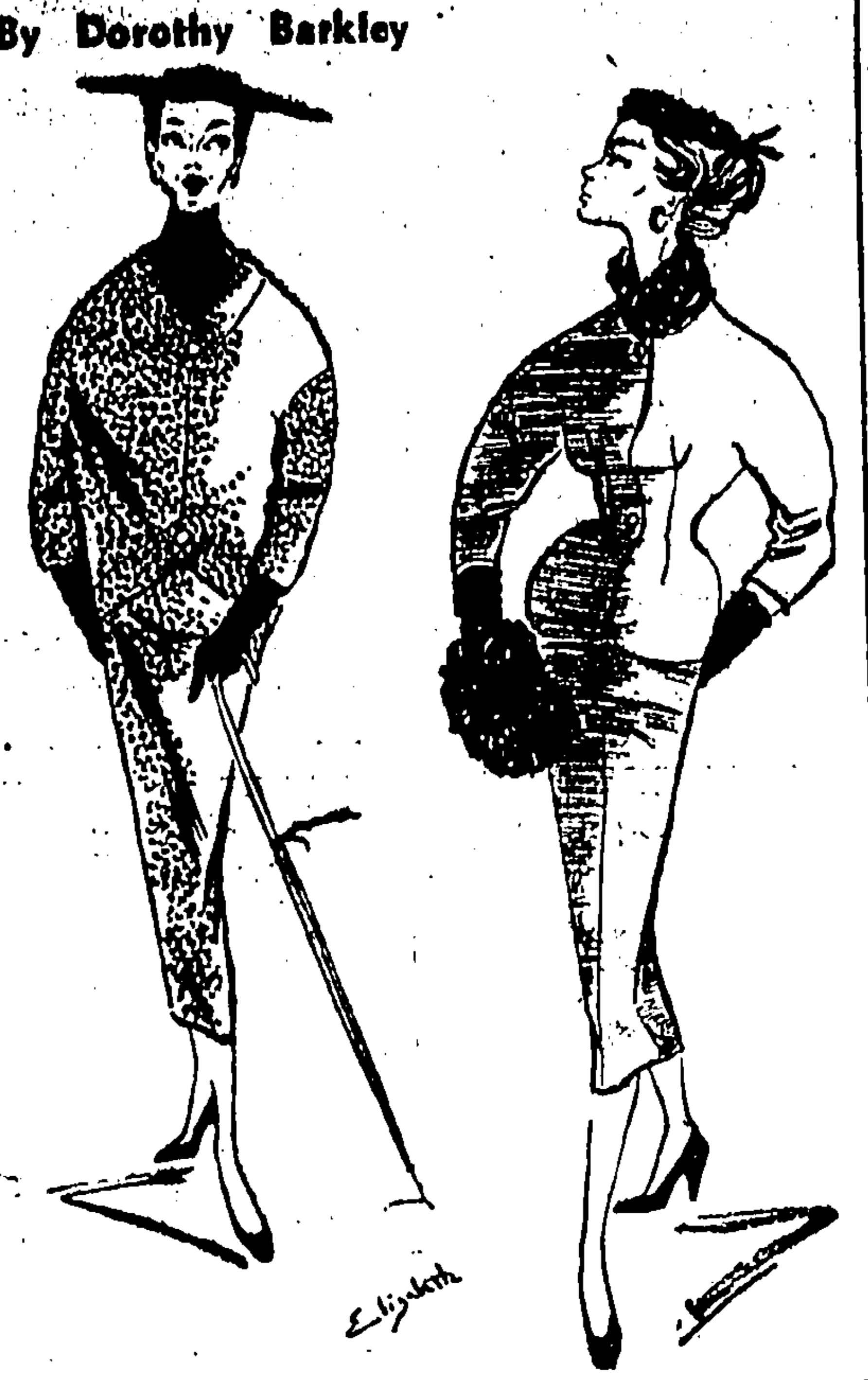
On the other hand, there are quite a few fashions women will be glad to see carried over into 1954. For instance, the present "line" which is more feminine than for years past. And also the novelty synthetic fabrics, introduced only this year. Cellophane, with a patent leather shine, and wool, woven with straw, are two of them.

There is good news for budget-conscious girls. Wool dresses and suits are cheaper than last year. Cheap practical cotton prints, in Regency stripes and Victorian rose designs, are assured of a place in the sun and indoors too.

• •

The details of next year's line are not released until the end of January when top designers show their collections. But one or two designers have already dropped hints of what we are to expect. Grey and navy will be the smart town colours (black is right out of the picture) ... smudgy floral prints replace the abstract prints of the last few years ... skirts, following the Dior trend, will be shorter, but they will be fifteen inches from the ground as compared with Dior's seventeen.

One designer who looks forward particularly to next year is Ronald Paterson. He has just joined the exclusive ranks of the Incorporated Society of London Fashion Designers and will show for the first time with them at the end of January. Although he has only recently received fashion's accolade, he has long been a couturier of note. Since the war he has acquired an enviable reputation and a clientele which includes the Countess of Dalkeith and Lady Bowater, the Lady Mayoress of London.



A good dinner to start the year right

By IDA BAILEY ALLEN

"IT is my considered opinion that New Year's Day should be gay, with a feeling of luxury and well-being, Madame," said the Chef. "Certain foods help to create this feeling. I believe a good beefsteak dinner does the trick. That is, if the lady really knows how to cook the steak."

"You're right there, Chef. Many persons think mere broiling or pan-frying is enough for a steak. But for fine flavour, the steak itself must not only be of good quality, but part of the seasoning should be done in advance."

The Chef Cooks A Steak

"That is why, Madame, I advocate rubbing a 2-lb. raw sirloin steak all over with 2½ tbsp. butter mixed with 1 tsp. table mustard, half a crushed section of peeled garlic, 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce, and a little freshly ground black pepper. Let stand at least 30 minutes at room temperature before broiling.

"The fat at the edge of the steak should be slashed in several places so the meat will lie flat. The broiler should be preheated. The steak is broiled 3 minutes, or until browned, then dusted with salt. Turn with cooking tongs (a fork makes the juices escape). Then broil and brown the second side and season with salt.

"Now reduce the heat, and continue to broil a steak cut 1-inch thick, 10 minutes for medium-done; if cut 2-inches thick, broil 20 minutes. When serving, I pour over a little melted butter, or top the steak with maitre d'hotel butter or sauce Bearnaise."

Sauce Bearnaise

Measure 3 tbsp. cider vinegar and 2 tbsp. tarragon vinegar into a small saucepan. Add sliced, 1 peeled small onion; cook 2 min. Meantime, in a 1-pt. bowl beat 2 grade A or B egg yolks until creamy. Strain in the hot vinegar. Then set the bowl in a pan of hot water and cook and stir until the mixture thickens. Remove from the heat. Beat in 3 tbsp. butter, ½ tsp. at a time. Season with ½ tsp. salt and 3 drops tabasco."

"If steak is to be starred, Chef, the rest of the food should be merely a supporting cast."

New Year's Dinner

French Onion Soup
Steak a La Chef
French Fried Potatoes
Peas French Style
Lettuce and Romaine Salad Bowl
Compote of Fruits with Whipped Cream Cheese
Coffee Tea Milk

"But what if the steak is not a sirloin, or of prime quality, Chef—it might be tough."

Trick of the Chef

To tenderise steak, brush it generously all over with not-sweet French dressing, and let stand at room temperature for an hour. Et voila!

Household Hints

Remove the skin from the edge of sliced liver to prevent it from "curling" during cooking.

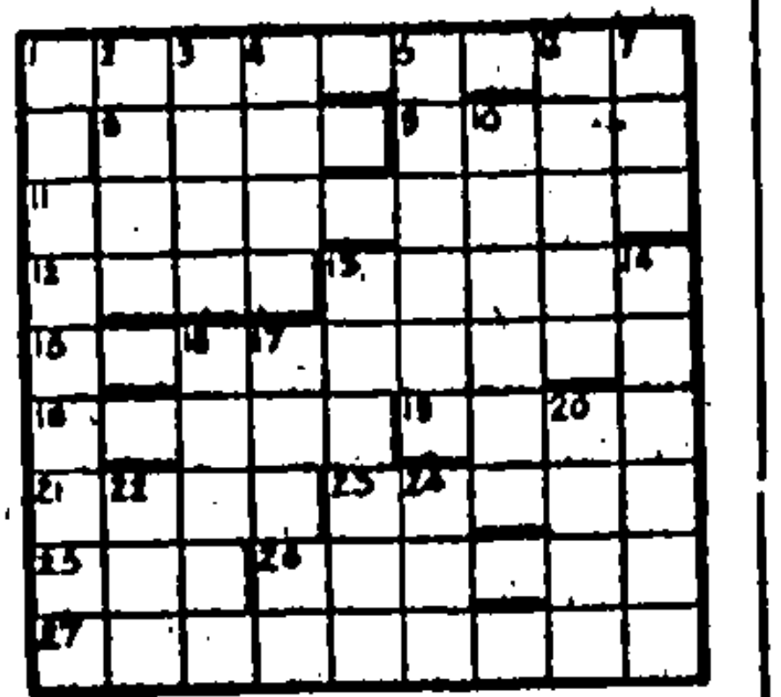
• • •

A dressing of two parts honey and one part lemon juice is delicious over fresh fruits.

• • •

Try adding a little poultry seasoning to hash to enhance its flavour.

CROSSWORD



Across

1. Title for a very tall prince ? (9)
8. This kind of fairy wins in the end. (4)
9. Notable speaker in Whispering Gallery. (4)
11. Is it used for making the head or the handle ? (9)
12. Slippery fellows. (4)
13. Code for Nepal ? (5)
15. Regal cent (anag.). (9)
18. Haggard colour of embers. (5)
19. Miss Durbeyville. (4)
21. Neat. (4)
22. "I dare do all that may become a man; who —— do more is none" (Macbeth). (5)
25. An age. (3)
26. Doctor of Divinity in mixed peal. (6)
27. No bantam, but smaller than a cruiser-weight. (9)

Down

1. Freed. (9)
2. He's made an enemy of the good fairy. (4)
3. The murder in Hamlet was most this. (4)
4. It's won before the game begins. (4)
5. Town of the daffodil fields for Masefield. (6)
6. A great multitude of fiends. (6)
7. This was turned by a bayonet darkly at dead of night. (5)
10. May be one of 13 Across. (6)
13. Red nap returns. (6)
14. Not least, but getting on that way. (6)
16. Let them start leading a double life, and they grow on you. (6)
17. At first make a good try. (5)
20. Goes with Saye in the Peerage. (4)
22. Egg collection. (3)
24. Much of this goes with nothing. (3)

SOLUTION TO CHECK YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

G	A	D	O	T	A	S	I	A
L	I	O	N	A	F	T	N	N
A	R	R	E	L	T	I	N	G
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
D	I	S	M	I	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

WHAT'S HIS LINE?

THEO DRAPER

Rearrange the letters to spell his occupation.

(Solution on Page 10)

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

The Pixie Makes a Snowstorm

—He's Counting Out Snowflakes One by One—

By MAX TRELL

KNARF and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, were surprised as they came near the Old Oak where the Pixies lived to hear a voice saying,

"Sixteen billion and one, and sixteen billion and two, sixteen billion and three ... okay, McSnooze. Now put them all in the bag. And be quick about it, before they all melt."

Cutting Snippets

Knarf and Hanid recognised Pixie O'Scowl's voice. Wondering what it was he was counting, they hurried to the Old Oak, just a few yards off. Here they found Pixie O'Scowl sitting on a stump of a tree, cutting snippets with a pair of long scissors out of what appeared to be an enormous sheet of white paper.

Sitting on the ground next to Pixie O'Scowl was Pixie McSnooze who was catching the snippets in a sort of big strainer as they fell.

"Sixteen billion and four, sixteen billion and five—"

At this moment, Pixie O'Scowl and Pixie McSnooze both looked up to see Knarf and Hanid standing in front of them.

"Go away!" grumbled Pixie O'Scowl rudely. "You're interrupting my work! Sixteen billion and ... there! I've forgotten the next number already. Now go away!"

Knarf and Hanid weren't really offended by Pixie O'Scowl's rudeness for they knew he was not really as rude as he sounded. Besides, Pixie McSnooze smiled and winked and distinctly whispered: "Ask him what he's doing!"

So Knarf said: "Pixie O'Scowl, do you mind telling us why you're cutting those snippets out of that big sheet of paper?"

"Yes," said Hanid, "and why you're counting them, and why Pixie McSnooze is catching the snippets in a strainer and putting them in a bag?"

Pixie Grumbled

Pixie O'Scowl merely grumbled, "They're not snippets!"

"What are they? asked Hanid.

"Go away," said Pixie O'Scowl. Then he yelled: "Please go away!"

"We'll certainly not go away," said Hanid. And saying this, she seized the ornery Pixie between her thumb and forefinger and gave him a squeeze.

"Ouch!" he yelled.

"Now be polite," she said, "and I'll let you down. But not until you promise to explain everything you're doing."

Pixie O'Scowl kicked and squirmed. Meanwhile Pixie McSnooze was giggling behind his hand and whispering: "Make him tell, make him tell!"

At last Pixie O'Scowl consented to explain everything, and Hanid immediately set him down gently on the stump again.

"First of all, this thing that looks like a big piece of white paper isn't a big piece of white paper at all," Pixie O'Scowl began. "It's a sheet of snow."

"Snow!" exclaimed Knarf and Hanid.

Snowflakes

"Yes," exclaimed Pixie O'Scowl, "and these snippets aren't snippets. They're snowflakes!"

"Snowflakes!" exclaimed Knarf and Hanid.

"Yes, and I'm counting them," said Pixie O'Scowl, "because (as everybody ought to know) nine hundred and ninety nine billion snowflakes make a snowstorm. So McSnooze here is catching them in a strainer and putting them in a bag and storing them under some rocks at the top of the hill."

"And when winter comes," said Knarf, "are you going to empty the bags and let the snowflakes fly out and make a snowstorm?"

Hanid picked up the ornery Pixie O'Scowl.

"Certainly," said Pixie O'Scowl, "how else do you think snowstorms happen? All right, McSnooze," he said suddenly turning to his assistant again, "let's get these bags filled. Where was I?"

"Sixteen billion and six, was the last one," said Pixie McSnooze.

"Now if you'll pardon me," Pixie O'Scowl said to Knarf and Hanid as he started snipping snowflakes off the snow sheet once more with the large scissors, "I'll go right on with my work. Sixteen billion and seven, sixteen billion and eight. ..."

And Knarf and Hanid smiled and walked off. Pixie McSnooze whispered: "See? I told you he'd tell you! Aren't you glad?"

Then Knarf and Hanid nodded. They were more than glad. They were delighted. It isn't everyone who knows how snowstorms are made.

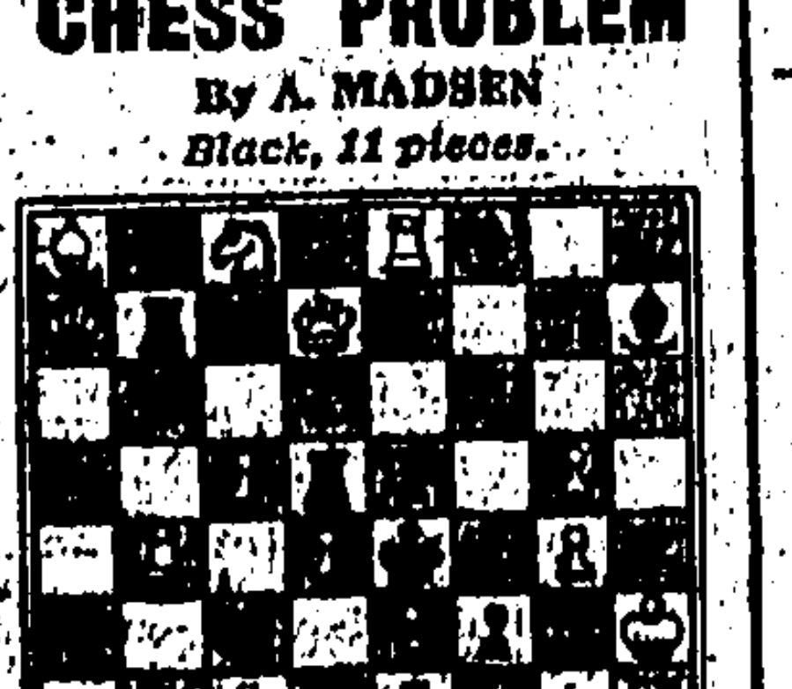
DUMB-BELLS

WHAT IS THE AUTHOR'S NAME ?
HERE IT IS AT THE END OF THE STORY "FINIS"
THE LEDGER SYNDICATE

CHESS PROBLEM

By A. MADSEN

Black, 11 pieces.

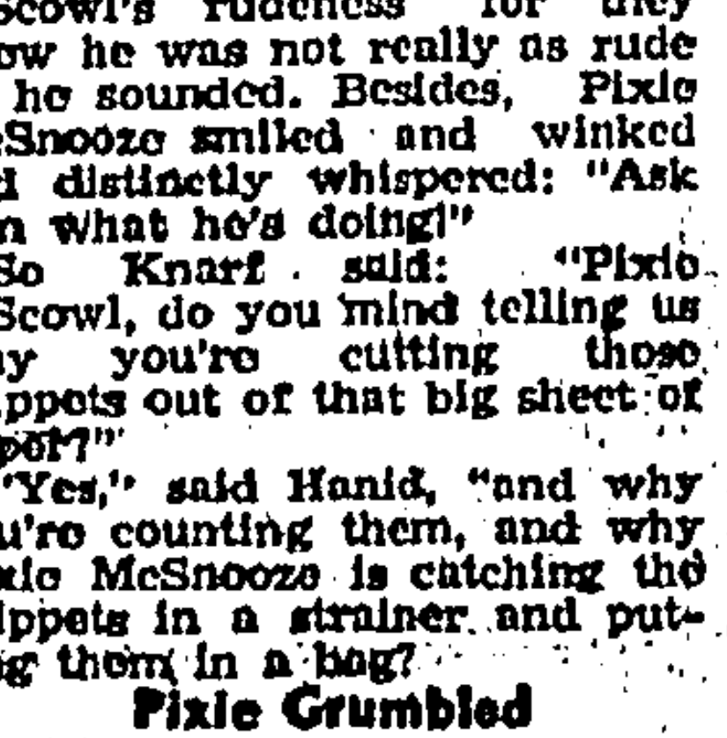


White, 13 pieces.

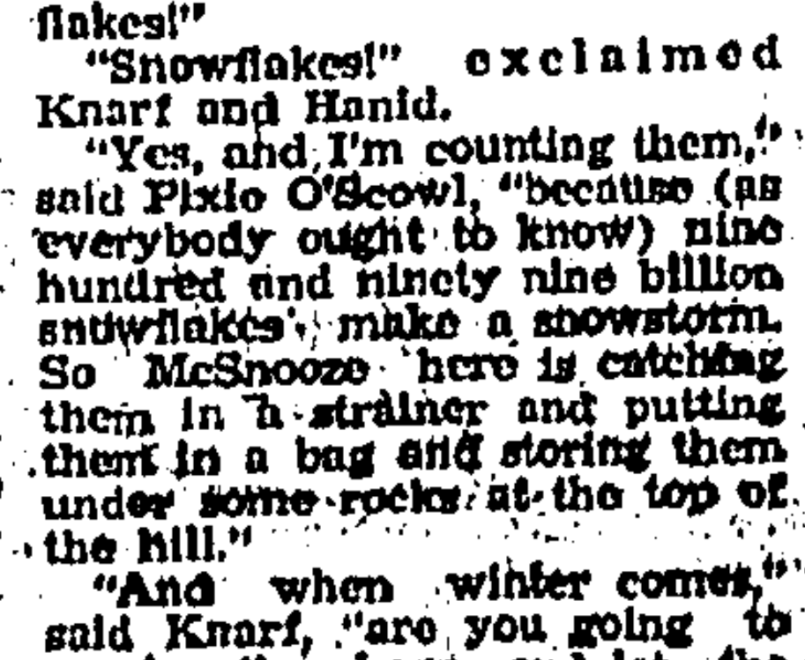
White to play: mate in two.

Solution to yesterday's problem: 1. Kt—K3, threat: 2. Kt—B3 (ch). 1. ... R×P (ch); Kt×R, Kt—Kt6; 2. K—B7. 1. ... Kt—R5; 2. Kt—B4 (ch).

Rupert's New Year Adventure—7



Rupert can see nothing of Fardy, but he does spy a small figure sitting on a fence, and, running downhill, he finds it is Fardy Fox. "Hullo, you're looking very gloomy," Rupert greets him. "What's the matter?" "It's this New Year resolution business,"



grumbled Fardy. "I made a resolution not to play tricks on anybody, and it's an awful strain. Tell me, how long must New Year resolutions last?" "That's just what I wanted to know," [illegible] Rupert. [illegible]

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Just Arrived — MORE ADVENTURES of RUPERT $5

THE GREATEST YEARS IN BADMINTON'S HISTORY ARE JUST AHEAD

By "ARGONAUT"

Nearly 20 years ago, on July 5, 1934, nine national Badminton organisations met in London and formed the International Badminton Federation — a body which today has almost 30 national organisations as members and is responsible for a sporting event—the Thomas Cup—which is rapidly building badminton into one of the truly great amateur international sports. Badminton can now well claim to be a world game.

Throughout the nearly 20 years' history of the International Badminton Federation one of the brightest features has been the tremendous popularity of the game throughout Asia.

Malaya has held the Thomas Cup since that competition was inaugurated and in the last competition India nearly made Asiatic supremacy complete when they narrowly lost to the USA the final round.

During the past few years, National Badminton Associations have sprung up like mushrooms all over Asia, and today there are no fewer than 11 of them affiliated to the International Badminton Federation—Burma, Ceylon, Hongkong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaya, Nepal, Pakistan, India, the Phillippines, and Thailand.

The game is rapidly becoming popular in the Australasian countries and for the first time in history this year Australasian players have ventured out into international competition.

The New Zealand Champions, Mr and Mrs J. E. Robson, who are now in England, will be competing in the All-England Championships and all the major European championships and have already annexed the Yorkshire titles, and reports have it that Robson may merit a place among the world's best ten in singles.

The Australian Ladies" Singles Champion for the last two years, Miss E. M. Peacock, is now in Malaya before proceeding to England.

She has already made her presence felt in Malayan badminton by representing Selangor in the recent Triangular Tournament and together with the Malayan Ladies' Singles Champion, Mrs Cecilia Samuel, was the backbone of the Selangor team.

EVER HIGHER STANDARD

Reports from all over Asia and Australia indicate that not only has there been tremendous growth in the popularity of the sport, but also that there is likelihood of players reaching a standard in the near future that has never been equalled.

The question of whether Champions are too old at 35 remains still a matter for controversy, but there is no doubt that new names will come to the fore among the record entry in this year's Thomas Cup Competition.

Foremost among them should be the new 19-year-old Champion of India, K. Mahan, who only recently defeated the former Indian Champion, T. N. Seth, for the fourth time in succession in two straight sets.

Then there is Thailand's 19-year-old Champion, Pinich Pattapongsa, who is regarded by Wong Peng-soon as his successor as Asia's No. 1 player. Pinich, whose sister holds the Thailand Ladies' Singles title and recently handed Hongkong's Champion, Miss Lilian Khoo, an 11-4 and 11-4 defeat, has all the facilities of the game at his disposal including a privately-owned badminton hall and must be considered a strong candidate for world honours.

There is a strong possibility that Hongkong fans may see these two young potential world champions in action as the Thailand team has expressed a wish to visit Hongkong some time next year.

In Malaya two youngsters, Oon Chong-teik and Chan Siew-king, have been prominent in the season's tournaments.

It is not yet known what Burma, Ceylon, Indonesia and Japan have in potential talent, but it is only hoped that Hongkong may also be able to supply it quota in another three or four years' time by adopting and accelerating a constructive plan.

The American and European Zones will most probably attract the same entries as usual for the Thomas Cup competition and so far no news of any particularly promising new players has been received.

America will most likely rely on almost exactly the same team as in the previous Thomas Cup competition. Despite appeals from all over the world, it is almost a certainty that Dave Freeman will not wield the racket for the USA again as he has already started his own private medical practice. Should he change his mind, the match of the century between him and Wong Peng-soon is indicated.

The only crop of good new players is likely from Denmark, which is almost certain to reach the semi-final of the competition again.

HARD TIME

Malaya will have a hard time defending the Cup in this third competition, if she enters the field without Wong Peng-soon and Abdulla Piruz. I predict that India will be the strongest challenger.

The All-England Championships, scheduled to take place in London from March 17 to March 20 this year, will have more than the usual quota o foreign entries.

Among them are the Robsons, and the All-India Champion, Mahan, and the All-India runner-up, T. N. Seth.

The Choong brothers, who between them hold the three major titles, are expected to meet with much stronger opposition than last year.

EMPIRE GAMES NOTEBOOK

The British Empire and Commonwealth Games, to be staged at Vancouver next August, will be the biggest ever in the series. Vancouver intends that they should be the most successful too.

Millions of dollars have been spent to ensure that success.

For the swimming events the authorities have constructed one of the most modern pools in the world. One hundred and sixty-five feet long, and 50 feet wide, it sparkles with colourful tiling, plastic-paintwork and chromium fittings.

The diving boards are of laminated material, coated with fibreglass to resist the weakening effect of moisture. A toe adjustment on the lower boards, operated hydraulically, enables divers to set the tension to their requirements.

That's not all. The water will be heated and illuminated from below.

5,076 MILES OF WIRE

Some idea of the magnitude of the task in preparing for the Games is revealed in the report of Earl T. Squire, Chairman of the Communications committee.

With preliminary arrangements now completed, Mr Squire's report shows that communications between the various venues and headquarters will require 5,076 miles of wire.

• • •

The Harlem Globe Trotters, the famous basketball team, have helped in raising money for the Games. Recently they came to Vancouver and played an exhibition game against the Boston Whirlwinds, another top-class touring side. The entire proceeds were handed over to the Games' fund.

WORKING THEIR WAY

The first ticket application for the Games came from South Africa. Mrs E. C. Donaldson, of Louis Trichardt, wrote to say that her son and three other young men decided two years ago to attend.

"At the moment they are working their way through the British Commonwealth," wrote Mrs Donaldson, "and they have been in England and the continent for the past year. They should arrive in Vancouver in the new year."

• • •

The new cycle track, completed this month, cost $115,000. Top cyclists have tried it out and report it to be "absolutely perfect."

• • •

Smallest team at the Games will come from Barbados. It will consist of one man, a weight-lifter, and his manager.

—(London Express Service)

Inter-School Cricket

The Diocesan Boys School drew with King George V School in friendly cricket match at DBS yesterday.

KGV

J. Shroff, b Liu	31
K. Spencer, c Kotewall, b Myatt	6
J. Basto, run out	22
I. Whittaker, b Myatt	57
J. Steven, c Kent, b Liu	0
G. Bendall, retired	26
P. Groves, c Kent, b Quie	4
F. Waller, c Kent, b Myatt	0
E. McCosh, c Quie, b Myatt	4
R. Spencer, b Myatt	0
R. Dewar, not out	0
Extras	0
Total	151

Bowling Analysis

	O	M	R	W
A. Myatt	12	3	43	5
A. Ojeng	8	1	38	-
B. Quie	6	-	32	1
R. Liu	4	1	20	2
Shroff	1	-	19	-

DBS

A. Djeng, c Spencer, b Whittaker	4
B. Quie, c Spencer, b Whittaker	8
A. Myatt, c Basto, b Shroff	13
M. Prew, not out	33
R. Kwan, played on	4
Long Hin Jok, c Spencer, b Shroff	0
G. Kent, c Waller, b Whittaker	3
Shroff, c Spencer, b Shroff	2
Brumwell, c Shroff, b Whittaker	2
Randell, b Whittaker	3
R. Liu, not out	0
Extras	21
Total (for, 9 wickets)	96

Bowling Analysis

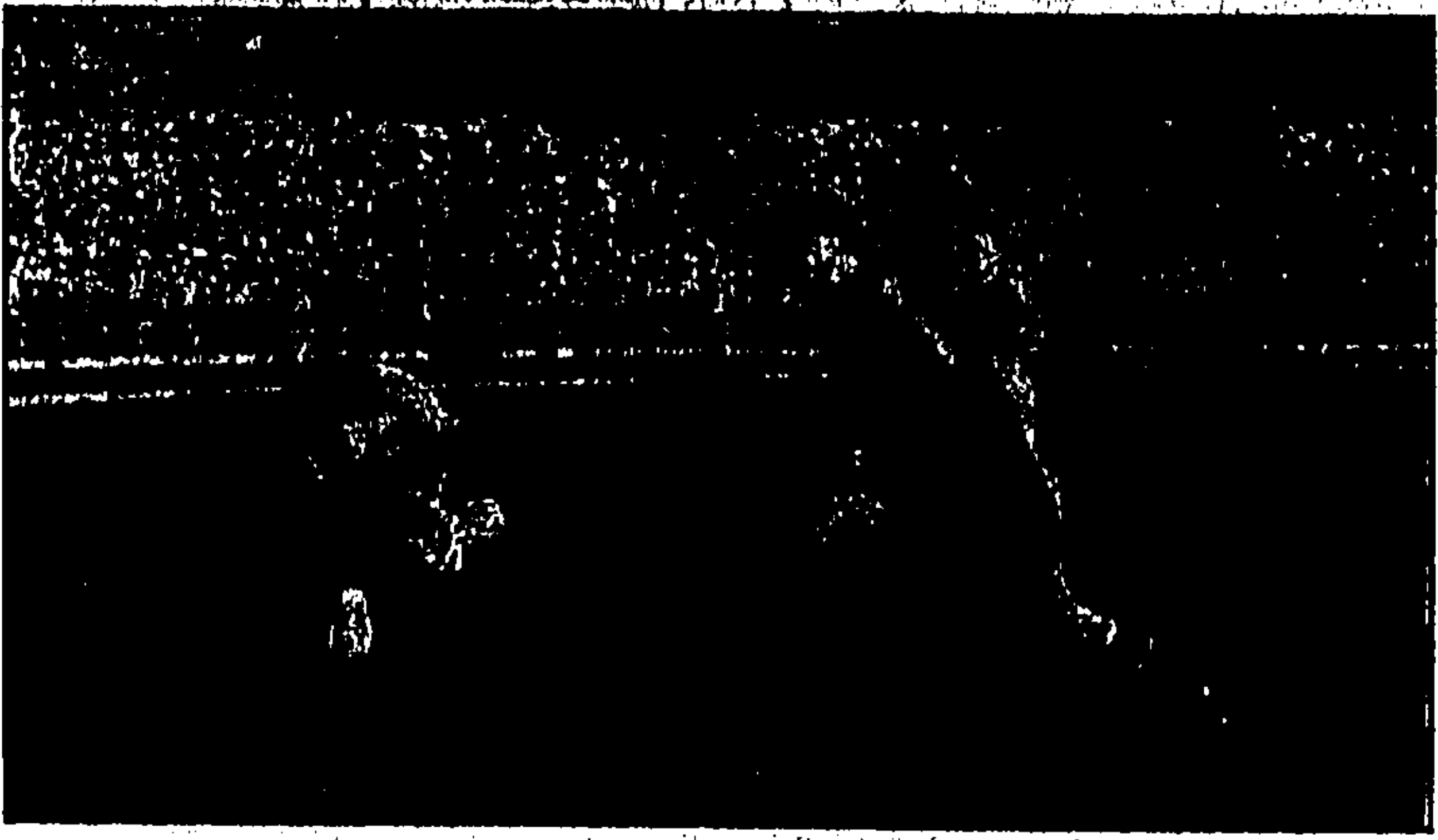
	O	M	R	W
I. Whittaker	11	2	22	5
F. Waller	3	-	9	-
J. Basto	[illegible]	-	[illegible]	-
R. Dewar	[illegible]	-	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	-	[illegible]	[illegible]

Senior "B" All Star Nine To Play U.S. Navy

The following have been chosen to represent the Senior "B" All Stars against the U.S. Navy (represented by the Cockrell) in New Year's exhibition game slated for 4 p.m. tomorrow:

Senior "B" All Stars:—Tony Rodrigues, Frankie Loureiro, Bernardo Santos (Delawares); Reggie Mattos, Carlinho Vierra, Bernard Silva, (Wildfire); Onofre Souza, Tony Rey, Manuel Nunes, (Dodgers); Claude Pugh, J. Bordwell, Wheeler, (Americans); Jimmy Herrick, Tony Wu, (Pandas); Reggie Vierra, (HKU). Bill Silva (Team manager).

WALES v. THE ALL BLACKS



This is one time that Welsh outside half Cliff Morgan got away in the game at Cardiff. Bill Clark missed his tackle by the thickness of a jersey. Wales beat the New Zealanders 13-8.

SPOTLIGHTING THE THREE-YEAR-OLDS OF 1954

Princely Gift May Live Up To His Breeding

By JAMES PARK

Princely Gift was in the December Sales catalogue, but, as he did not change hands, it is assumed that he will be available for next season's racing.

Handicapped at 8 st. 9 lb. in the Free Handicap, Princely Gift did not run beyond five furlongs, and yet, from his breeding, one would expect him to stay reasonably well.

He is by Nasrullah out of a Blue Peter mare, and that suggests something more than a turn of speed.

It was still a little disconcerting to find him in the sales list, even if he failed to make his reserve. For some time in his first season Princely Gift seemed to regard racing in a light-hearted way. I have a vivid recollection of seeing him walking round the paddock at York in August playfully plucking at the coat sleeve of the lad who was leading him round.

His light-heartedness extended to the race and it seemed to me he could have beaten King's Evidence if he had shown a more workmanlike desire to get on with the business.

I did not expect King's Evidence to concede 7lb. that day, but he did after a gruelling race which left me wondering whether he took more out of himself than can be replaced.

ROUSED

Princely Gift came to no harm as he won his two later races. In each case he was thoroughly roused and made to realise a serious job was on hand. When Princely Gift met Darius in the July Stakes, Darius was ridden in the manner which suits him best.

He came with a sharp rally out of the Dip and went past Princely Gift in a manner which suggested a ready victory. But Sir Gordon Richards got Princely Gift going again and, with Darius getting off a true line, there were only a few inches between them as they went past the post.

We now find Darius set to concede 7lb. so that in the official opinion Princely Gift lost a little ground in the second half of the season.

I took a great liking to Nasrullah's son when he made a first appearance and the speed showed that day when very backward led me to think that he would be up to Ascot class. He did not run at the Royal meeting.

The going was heavy when the colt won at Newmarket in Houghton week.

In the first list of prices I have seen he is a 10-1 chance for the 2,000 Guineas and 25-1 for the Derby. I can hardly think classic prospects have been entertained as, in that case, I should not have expected him to be sent up for sale.

The reserve was probably around 7,000 guineas as he passed out of the ring unsold at 6,800 guineas. He cost 5,000 guineas as a yearling.

A colt of excellent physique, he brings in Pharos, Blenheim, Fairway and Blandford in the third remove so it is a well balanced pedigree.

There is no reason that I know why the colt should not make normal progress. In that case he may well live up to his breeding. It would have been more satisfactory if he had raced over six furlongs in his first season. The fact that he did not makes it difficult to pass an opinion.

—(London Express Service)

Australians Get 'Sticky' About Brisbane

London, Dec. 30.

The MCC Committee will consider at its next meeting the Australian Board of Control's rejection, reported earlier today, of their request that Brisbane be omitted from the Test venues on the next England tour of Australia.

The MCC Secretary said no official reply had yet been received from Australia but that when it does arrive a meeting will be called.

"The Australian Board's decision to keep Brisbane as a Test ground, which we opposed on climatic and financial grounds, means that we may have to reconsider our plans of the tour," he said.—China Mail Special.

All Blacks Beat The Midland Counties

Birmingham, Dec. 30.

New Zealand's Rugby Union tourists beat the Midland Counties at Villa Park today by 18 points (three goals and a penalty goal) to three (a penalty goal).

Each side scored a penalty in the first half, but New Zealand obviously meant business afterwards as they converted successive tries by Bagley, Clarke and Wilson.

So outplayed were the Counties after half time that on only three occasions did the ball enter the All Blacks' half of the field.

New Zealand took the lead after six minutes when the Counties were penalised for feet up and Kelly's successful kick went over off an upright.

Both sides found the greasy ball difficult to control and there were soon signs of the pitch cutting up after the morning rain. Once Greasley, the Counties left back, trusted his feet rather than his hands and dribbled from near half way to the opposing 25 before being checked.

Several times accurate defensive kicking by Channer eased pressure against the Counties. After half an hour Jackson booted over the All Black's line where Kelly, challenged, kicked into touch in goal. From the resultant scrummage the touring side were penalised for feet up and Channer sent the ball over to equalise.

NOT IN FAVOUR

The New Zealand side had enjoyed more of the game but conditions were not in favour of their style of play.

It was not long after the interval that the forward strength of New Zealand began to dominate play. Clarke, White and Stuart led a foot rush into the Counties' 25 and Bagley soon touched down for Kelly to convert.

Using a lofted punt to advantage when the ground became churned up, the New Zealanders became complete masters. Clarke was credited with a shove over try and Kelly again added the points and then a break through by Loader ended with Wilson going over for Kelly to convert again.

All this scoring came within the space of 22 minutes but there was only one side in the picture throughout the period. —China Mail Special.

Gremlins Wanted

The undermentioned are requested to turn out for a game against the Victorians on Saturday at Boundary Street Police Ground at 2.30 p.m:

M. Muir, B. Rouse, S. Silva, M. Richards, R. Kerr, M. Blenkinsop, N. James, M. Revie, H. Fowler, D. Barten (Capt), A. Perry. Reserve, I. Smirnoff.

CRACK AMERICAN COLT TO RACE IN BRITAIN

By "THE SCOUT"

London.

A touch of excitement colours the 1954 racing programme with the news that Native Dancer, the famous American colt, is to visit Europe.

Mr Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt, his owner, has been toying with this idea for several months.

Native Dancer, soon to be a four-year-old, has been beaten only once in 19 starts.

Under American rules, his future will lie in handicap races. It is unlikely that he will ever have a lenient mark in the weights, and this consideration has influenced Mr Vanderbilt in planning a European foray.

Gerald Balding, trainer for the Sagamore stable, confirmed that this expedition has been in Mr Vanderbilt's mind for some considerable time.

He thought it likely that the grey colt's visit would be on the lines of "a smash-and-grab raid" (my words, in case there's any misunderstanding).

Alfred G., vigorous, empirical, fortyish, is keen to prove the quality not only of his colt but of American blood-stock in general.

BY AIR TO ASCOT

The idea, at present, is to transport the colt by air to Ascot for the £25,000 race some ten days in advance.

Native Dancer would be accompanied by Bill Winfrey, his trainer, and by Eric Guerin, his jockey.

He will need practice at our starting-gate—a facility which the Ascot authorities will gladly afford. Guerin may require experience of riding round the course, especially as Ascot is right-handed. This can also be arranged.

The year has been well chosen, for it is difficult now to name any likely champions from England or France. And, make no mistake, Native Dancer's record stamps him as a really superior horse.

I only saw him twice, when he was a two-year-old. The first time he set off in front, had the race won in the first two furlongs, and won pulling up.

That performance was registered on a fast track at Saratoga. The distance was five and a half furlongs.

The grey colt came out again, against stiffer opposition, a week later. On the morning of the race a thunderstorm broke over Saratoga and the dirt track looked like a mess of chocolate pudding.

The distance was now six furlongs and Guerin reversed his earlier tactics. He pulled "the Dancer" back and he had five lengths to make up on the leaders in the short straight.

WITH EARS COCKED

It seemed impossible. But the grey colt, with his long, effortless stride, went through that mud as if it was made of ducks' feathers and won with his ears cocked.

His record should be 100 per cent. He lost the Kentucky Derby by inches after being bumped and losing ground early in the race. It will not be the first time, or the last, that a good jockey has ridden a bad race.

Anyway, after this bump Guerin became nervous and indecisive. When he made his challenge the leader was too far in front and the winning-post too near.

—(London Express Service)

HKFC TEAMS

The following have been selected to represent the Hongkong Football Club in soccer league matches on Sunday, January 3. Both games are to be played at Sookunpoo.

1st Division H.K.F.C. v St Joseph's on Sunday at 4 p.m. at Sookunpoo.—Catton, Armstrong, Tarpey, A. C. McDonald, Forrow, Planck, Paton, Mullen, Keane, Falconer, Pickering; reserves, Saubolle, Bishop.

2nd Division H.K.F.C. v St Joseph's on Sunday at 2.30 p.m. at Sookunpoo.—Jones, Bishop, Strange, Fraser, Lepeley, Neilson, Treadwell, Kinloch, Deignan, Saubolle, Wake; reserves, Munch, Holmes, Beattie, Ward, Cockburn.

BACK FROM TAIWAN

The Chinese referees soccer team returned from Taipei yesterday after playing a four-games series there.

WELCOME TO THE AMATEUR CHAMPIONS OF ENGLAND!

By I. M. MacTAVISH

Welcome to Pegasus....welcome to the present day greats of amateur football in England....welcome to a band of sportsmen who can really claim to play the game for its own sake....for its traditions ....and not for the personal gains and advantages that accompany success.

Fiction writers would think twice before offering a story of a phenomenal football team that is born as the realisation of a great ideal: that restricts the selection of its players to a very limited sphere: that flashes into action in the very best Corinthian style, and then, carrying all before it, wins the premier award in its country, not once but twice, in the first five years of its existence.

If such a story reached the pages of a boy's magazine it would be devoured with relish by hero-worshipping schoolboys, but it would be laughed off as utter fantasy by father in all his knowledge!

Fact, however, is often stranger than fiction and those are the achievements of the Pegasus players who will assist us to usher in the New Year in high class style.

Tomorrow Pegasus will troop on to the pitch at Caroline Hill to oppose the best team that the Colony can put out against them. I still say that it is a good side in spite of all the criticism that was voiced when the new selection committee completed its first task. The proof will come tomorrow afternoon.

Pegasus will set our players a tough problem, but I do not believe that the Hongkong boys will be found wanting in ideas for a successful solution to the situation.

If they are beaten it will be because the visitors are the better team....But if they win it will not be because Pegasus are showing any sympathy for the locals . . . . on the field or in the exchequer . . . . but because on this occasion we happen to have the better team.

I have not seen Pegasus play recently although I have a collection of reports on the games they played in the weeks before they left home, and for that reason and that reason only I am not going to make any forecast of the outcome of the first game.

I shall go along to watch the play with a critical eye. I shall be hoping that the better team wins, but I shall be hoping that that team is Hongkong for our soccer system needs just such a tonic to save it from running down.

To the Pegasus team I issue this friendly warning. Whatever the final result you will know you have been in a hard game. The team that has been selected to oppose you in this opening game has a shrewd blend of the traditional local close-passing style play and the wider, faster game you know back home.

The side is made up of six Chinese and five Englishmen who for several weeks have been looking forward with typical sportsmen's enthusiasm to taking part in this game. They will make you play every inch of the way, because, to gain a victory over you would be considered a great honour, and I can think of no better compliment that they could pay to you.

The Colony will be represented by the following team: Granger (Army and York City); Hau Yung-sang (Sing Tao), Wells (Army); Longland (Army), Ko Po-keung (South China), Tong Sheung (South China); Chu Wing-wah (South China), Reeves (Army and Portsmouth), Bennett (Army), Yui Cheuk-yin (South China) and Mok Chun-wah (South China).

THE GAMBOLS . . . . by Barry Appleby
I LOVE MELON FRAPPE AND THEY'VE GOT STEAKS MIGNON
OH!
MENU
I'LL JUST HAVE THE SET DINNER
MAKE IT TWO, PLEASE
Barry

WALTHAMSTOW AVENUE v. IPSWICH

Walthamstow Avenue, the amateur football team who drew 2-2 with Ipswich Town, the Third Division League team, in the second round of the FA Cup competition, lost the replay 0-1.

This photograph was taken at the replay and shows Garneys, the Ipswich centre-forward, rising to the occasion in a heading duel with L. Brahan (No. 5), the Walthamstow centre-half.

Tomorrow's Chances At The Valley

By "RAPIER"

The Hongkong Jockey Club's two-day Sixth Race Meeting of the 1953/54 season opens tomorrow and continues on Saturday the 9th January, 1954.

There are 10 events down for decision tomorrow, the most important of which is the New Year Handicap for Class 1 ponies.

The First Saddling Bell will be rung at 11.30 a.m. and the first race will be run at 12.00 noon. The tiffin interval will come after the running of the fourth race, and the first bell after tiffin will be rung at 2.30 p.m.

Given fine weather conditions, the meeting should attract a record crowd of racing fans.

Here are my estimates of the chances:

FIRST RACE

Tytam Bay Handicap: From 2 Mile Post.

The opening race of the day is confined to Class 7 ponies to be ridden by Riders who have not won ten races anywhere at any time."

Pearl Diver is coming up to winning a race and should help novice Mr Yen Ching-lan to graduate.

Flaming Wheel (H. K. Hung), Great Conqueror (L. H. Chan), Madame Butterfly (Alex Lam) and Rose Emmo (H. K. Cheng) have shown much promise in morning gallops and should provide a spirited challenge for premier honours in this opener of the two-day race meeting.

SECOND RACE

Quarry Bay Handicap: From 1¼ Mile Post.

In this race, I like the chances of Lassie (M. Samarcq), Queenpots (K. Kwok), Gladiolus (Chun Kit) and Al Fresco (A. Ostrounmoff).

Lassie came second in the Obelisk Hill Handicap over Six Furlongs at the Third Race Meeting and on that account it was penalised by 5 lbs. As it is happier over a shorter distance, I think it can handle this extra weight and win here.

Queenpots is dangerous, and if Gladiolus can get off to a flying start, it will give both Lassie and Queenpots a great fight as the pony has been primed well for this race.

Al Fresco is very fit and is capable of causing an upset.

THIRD RACE

Belcher Bay Handicap: One Mile.

Peony, with Mr F. Noodt up, has the distance, weight, combination and class all in her favour and should have no difficulty in winning in this crowd.

Bitter Sweet (J. A. Auchnie) and Evergreen (H. C. Woo) are good enough to offer certain opposition in case this brown mare falters.

Aesthete (H. K. Chuang), Bonnie Eyes (M. Samarcq) and South Pacific (A. Noodt) have some chance here.

FOURTH RACE

Aldrich Bay Handicap: Six Furlongs.

This sprint race for Class 5 ponies has attracted 17 entries and, in view of the short distance, an upset is probable.

Perfectibility (P. Wei), Ben Macdhui (K. Kwok), Hiram C (C. F. Ng) and Queen Helen (K. Shih) should be worth watching.

I strongly fancy Perfectibility as the distance is well suited for this pony although it ran unplaced the last time out.

Main challenge should come from Ben Macdhui, which is also quite at home over the distance.

Then there is Hiram C to be considered as it is a sprinter and, given a good start, might cause an upset, while Queen Helen should also be kept in mind.

FIFTH RACE

New Year Handicap: From 2 Mile Post.

This is the main event of the afternoon and will be contested by Class 1 ponies.

Johnber (H. K. Chuang) has the quality to win in this field, judging from its third placing in the Hongkong Autumn Champions at the last meeting, and many will no doubt rely on it when making their bets.

Personally, I think that Johnber should win, but Ben More (F. Noodt) is not to be ignored as this pony can move fast and the distance is to its liking.

Clonfeckle (M. Samarcq) and Gold Medal (J. Pote-Hunt) are in good form and should deserve serious considerations.

SIXTH RACE

Deep Bay Handicap: From 2 Mile Post.

Although Fidra (H. K. Hung) has not achieved any major success for some time, it has been most impressive in morning gallops and may soon atone for previous disappointments.

However, a well tuned up Fleeting Moment (Chun Kit) can be a formidable opponent. The pony is in top condition and should be very near at the finish.

Say When (P. Plumbly) will command solid support and looks a safe place bet.

Novice rider Mr L. H. Chan will be given another chance to score on Apple Pie which ran splendidly at the last meeting to pass the winning point first, but was later disqualified for crossing.

It has demonstrated its staying power and may provide its rider with his "maiden" win.

SEVENTH RACE

Causeway Bay Handicap: From 1½ Mile Post.

The combination of Mr Pih and Giddup must appear as a veritable standout, and should command most support.

American Carrot (Mr F. Noodt) is rounding to winning form and is certainly good over this distance.

Currently in good form, Never Mind (M. Samarcq) has shown flashes of early speed and should provide strong opposition here.

Highlight (S. W. Tang) has shown much promise and is apparently a first class sprinter.

Outside chances at good prices are John Halifax (P. Plumbly) and Ambition (K. Kwok).

EIGHTH RACE

Kungu Bay Handicap: 1¼ Miles.

This race is confined to Class 5 ponies. Looking over the entries, it would appear that Airs and Graces (M. Samarcq) is the logical choice for the first position.

Winning Rush (J. A. Auchnie) has shown rapid improvement during morning gallops and should be very near at the finish.

Forward View (H. C. Pih) is coming along nicely, but the best it can do is to take third place.

For those looking for an outsider, Beautiful Star (R. Tsai) is the pony.

NINTH RACE

Bias Bay Handicap: From 1½ Mile Post.

If Comet, Mr Kwok up, decides to run true to form, it will be most difficult to beat.

Another pony which is improving rapidly and figures to cause some concern is Firestone, Mr Samarcq up.

Hawaiian Moon (H. K. Chuang) has also shown signs of improvement and must be reckoned a contender.

Flying Dutchman (R. Tsai) will not be out of the picture and is worth while following as an outsider.

10TH RACE

Tylong Bay Handicap: [illegible]

This is the last race of the day and will be contested by Class 6 ponies. A very fit [illegible] (F. Noodt) should [illegible] although it will have to fight hard against Hellophyte (R. Tsai) and Laddie (H. K. Hung).

Courtier (A. Ostroumoff) is moving well in its morning gallops and appears ripe to score.

Ponies in this race which have also shown good form lately are Penforce (K. Kwok), Busy Bee (C. A. Lee) and Teddington (F. Noodt).

HKCC Team To Play Pegasus

The following will represent the HKCC against a Pegasus cricket team on Sunday, January 3, at Chater Road.

Play will commence at 11.30 a.m.

L. D. Kilbee, I. L. Stanton, R. W. Franklin, F. A. Weller, H. Owen-Hughes, T. A. Pearce, D. W. Leach, G. H. Pritchard, K. G. Spink, R. M. Macpherson, R. H. Hughes. 12th man, G. T. Rowe. Umpires, R. R. Davies and P. J. Hart. Scorer, R. McAdam.

• • •

The following will represent the HKCC against a combined Royal Navy and RAF team on Friday, January 1, at Chater Road.

Play will commence at 11.30 a.m.

L. D. Kilbee, I. L. Stanton, T. G. C. Knight, T. A. Pearce, H. Owen-Hughes, G. T. Rowe, K. G. Spink, R. H. Hughes, F. Van Oorde, J. R. Jekyll, R. H. Campion.

• • •

The following have been selected to represent the DRCC, in a friendly game against HMS Newcastle on Sunday, January 3, commencing at 1.30 p.m.

The match will take place at King's Park.

C. L. Hughes (Capt), G. Horley, J. Adie, R. Horwood, W. James, R. Knapp, J. Barber, N. Davies, Mr Truscott, Mr Whitfield, D. Sutcliffe. Twelfth man:—D. Horley.

Two Russians At The Hastings Chess Congress

Hastings, Dec. 30.

The Hastings International Chess Congress opens tonight with two Russian chess masters taking part — the first time the Russians have competed since 1934.

The Soviet chess experts are David Bronstein, 29, and Alexander Tolusch, 42.

Accompanied by an interpreter and a Soviet Government agent, they will stay at the Queen's Hotel during the 10-day tournament.

All told, 121 players from 12 countries are taking part. — United Press.

KCC TENNIS

The following Tennis matches are scheduled to be played off during the week-end at Kowloon Cricket Club.

Saturday

Court 1—H. Van Dück & D. Coffey v. C. Tiernan & P. Simon at 2.30 p.m.

Sunday

Court 1—A. S. Angestad v. F. A. Fisher; Court 2—Mrs A. S. Angestad & Miss E. Low v. Miss B. Nuss & Miss N. Modoo; Court 3—Miss D. Greaves & C. Chern v. Mrs P. Macmillyn & J. Fenton; Court 4—Miss T. [illegible] & Mrs D. Churn v. Miss L. [illegible] Miss A. Cell. Court 5—Cotall & Howard v. P. Simon. All at 10 a.m. [illegible] & Miss A. S. Angestad [illegible] Court 1—[illegible] v. C. Walker.

CORONATION YEAR WAS A SPLENDID ONE FOR BRITISH SPORT

By VERNON MORGAN

London, Dec. 31.

Coronation year was a splendid one for British sport. Results achieved give promise of even greater successes in the important year to come.

The one major blot was the 6-3 soccer defeat of England by Hungary, who inflicted the first reverse ever on England on home soil by a continental team. For 90 years this record had remained intact.

To set against this was England's win over Australia at cricket, her first victory for the mythical "ashes" for 20 years and the first Test series win at home for 27 years.

The British women golfers scored their first success against their American rivals in winning the Curtis Cup, while the male professionals only lost their battle against the Americans in the Ryder Cup by a matter of inches—a missed putt.

While there was no apparent revival in British lawn tennis among either sex, the table tennis players, men and women, retained their places among the world's best. The men won the Swaythling Cup, the world crown for teams, for the first time.

The boxers failed to cover themselves with glory, apart from heavyweight Don Cockell, who confounded everyone by beating one of the leading American heavyweights, Harry Matthews, in Seattle. This victory to some extent set off the beating Randolph Turpin took at the hands of the American, Bobo Olson, in their bout for the world middleweight title.

British horsemen and horsewomen kept the Union Jack flying at horse shows on both sides of the Atlantic. Miss Pat Smythe, the 24-year-old Gloucestershire girl, could rightly be hailed as Britain's number one sportswoman for 1953. Fox Hunter, though he once or twice fell from grace when jumping indoors in North America, lived up to his name as the most popular horse in the world—proved by the shoal of Christmas cards he received.

If it was a black year for English soccer, it was a good one for English rugby. Wales were beaten by eight to three at Cardiff and England took the triple crown.

In the mechanical world, Mike Hawthorn drove so well that he is now in the top class of all, while the daredevil motor cyclists, Geoffrey Duke, Fergus Anderson and Eric Oliver, all won world titles. Mr and Mrs Ian Appleyard, of Yorkshire, earned a rating among the world's most famous married couples for their brilliant driving in the big motor rallies.

AWARD OF THE YEAR

But the award of the year for the sport which gave England the greatest world prestige must go to the track stars — to men like Gordon Pirie, Jim Peters and Roger Bannister.

Pirie ran so superbly as to be compared with the sensational Czech, Emil Zatopek, the triple Olympic gold medallist.

The clash between Pirie, who broke two world records during the season, and Zatopek in the European Championships in Switzerland next year is regarded as likely to be the greatest sporting encounter of the season.

The tough, little distance runner, Peters, ran the fastest Marathon of the year in the world, putting up the astonishing time of two hours, 18 minutes 34.8 seconds in the Finnish international event at Turku.

If Zatopek goes for the Marathon in the European Championships, Peters will give him a far harder battle than he did in the Olympic Marathon at Helsinki, if the present running of the British Champion is any criterion. At Helsinki, Peters had to fall out. He learned his lesson in that race and he is not likely to repeat his mistake.

Bannister, with an unofficial 4 minutes 2 seconds, got as near as anyone in the world to the magic four-minute mile, and, to cap a wonderful athletic season England took four world relay records, the four miles (four times one mile) and 6,000 metres (four times 1,500 metres) for men while the women set new figures for the one and a half miles (three times half a mile) and the 880 yards (four times 220 yards).

TESTING TIME

Next year will be a testing one for English sport. First to go on trial will be the soccer men who play Yugoslavia and Hungary in Belgrade and Budapest respectively next May, and then do battle against the world in the Championships in Switzerland.

There is little hope of England winning this contest, though the Football Association has taken to heart the caning of the "masters" by the Hungarian "pupils", and every effort will be made to produce a much better side.

Then come the British Empire and Commonwealth Games at Vancouver, where the great performers in the Empire will struggle for supremacy in nine sports. The Duke of Edinburgh will be there to watch them.

Flying quickly back from Canada, the track and field athletes will head for Switzerland where they face the crack continental stars in the European Championships. These should produce some wonderful running, jumping and throwing.

And as the old year closes, the cricketers will be setting out for Australia in a bid to prove that their victory in England was no fluke and that the reign of Australia as the kings of the cricket world is on the wane.—China Mail Special.

◆

New South Wales Defeat Victoria

Melbourne, Dec. 30.

New South Wales raced to an early win over Victoria on the final day of their Sheffield Shield match to-day.

They won by nine wickets, final scores being: New South Wales 461 and 71 for one wicket; Victoria 306 and 222.

Victoria's remaining two wickets added only 12 runs when play was resumed today. Fast bowler Ray Lindwall took one of them to finish with five wickets for 38 runs for the innings.

New South Wales hit the required 71 runs for victory in 51 minutes.

R. Briggs batted brightly to score 33 and Arthur Morris made a neat 27 not out.—Reuter.

'UNSPOILABLE' IS THE WORD FOR AUDREY

Says ALAN DENT

Imagine my surprise when I found in the heart of Hollywood a play that has been running there for 21 years without a stop. This is the mock-serious old drama of "The Drunkard," which the greatest of showmen, Phineas T. Barnum, first presented in 1848 in New York City.

This is just one of those plays so bad that they won't stop running. They become a fashion and a habit. At the Theatre Mart in Hollywood you sit at a table—something like our own Players Theatre—and are provided with light refreshments and invited to join in the chorus into which the characters break when they are weary of moralising in the old melodramatic way.

A programme note gives us a list of the many live film stars who have come along to revel in "The Drunkard."

I had my own "elegant sufficiency" of live film stars on my last day in Hollywood when I was shown round the Paramount Studios.

The first thing I did here was to look straight through Mr Bing Crosby, who—it is only fair to add — looked straight back through me in return.

DELIGHTFUL

But it was delightful to me to meet Miss Audrey Hepburn on the set of her new film "Sabrina Fair." Miss Hepburn, from the pinnacle of her ravishing and extreme youth, smiled up at me in a way that made me feel very old indeed, but not hopelessly so. (Can one smile up from a pinnacle? Miss Hepburn can.)

I reminded Miss Hepburn of an occasion when, some three or four years ago in a London revue called "Sauce Tartare," she won a round of applause by dint of sheer grace and piquancy, though she had not a word to say and her name was not in the programme. She said she remembered the occasion very well, and I told her how I joined in the applause.

Furthermore I told her, there and then, that she looked "unspoilable," and she said it was a nice word which she would try to remember.

STOLEN RIDE

This done, I chatted with several directors and producers of note and fame, and for a refreshment stole a short ride on a green bicycle marked "Danny Kaye" which was propped against one of the studios.

I had hardly put the bicycle back in its place when I met Mr Kaye himself, looking about 15 and wearing a boy's round white cotton hat and powder-blue slacks.

Mr Kaye asked me what I was doing in Hollywood as a dramatic critic, and I asked him what *he* was doing there when he should be back at the Palladium. So Mr Kaye gave me an old-fashioned look and said: "Come and see me at my house when I've finished my day's work."

The last thing I did in the Paramount Studios was to lunch in the studio-restaurant with the publicity manager and the censor of films (both men with a keen sense of humour) and to have my attention drawn to a distant phenomenon of great wonderment.

This was an apparition which came sleekly into a doorway, surveyed the scene for a moment, and then sleekly withdrew again.

A VISION

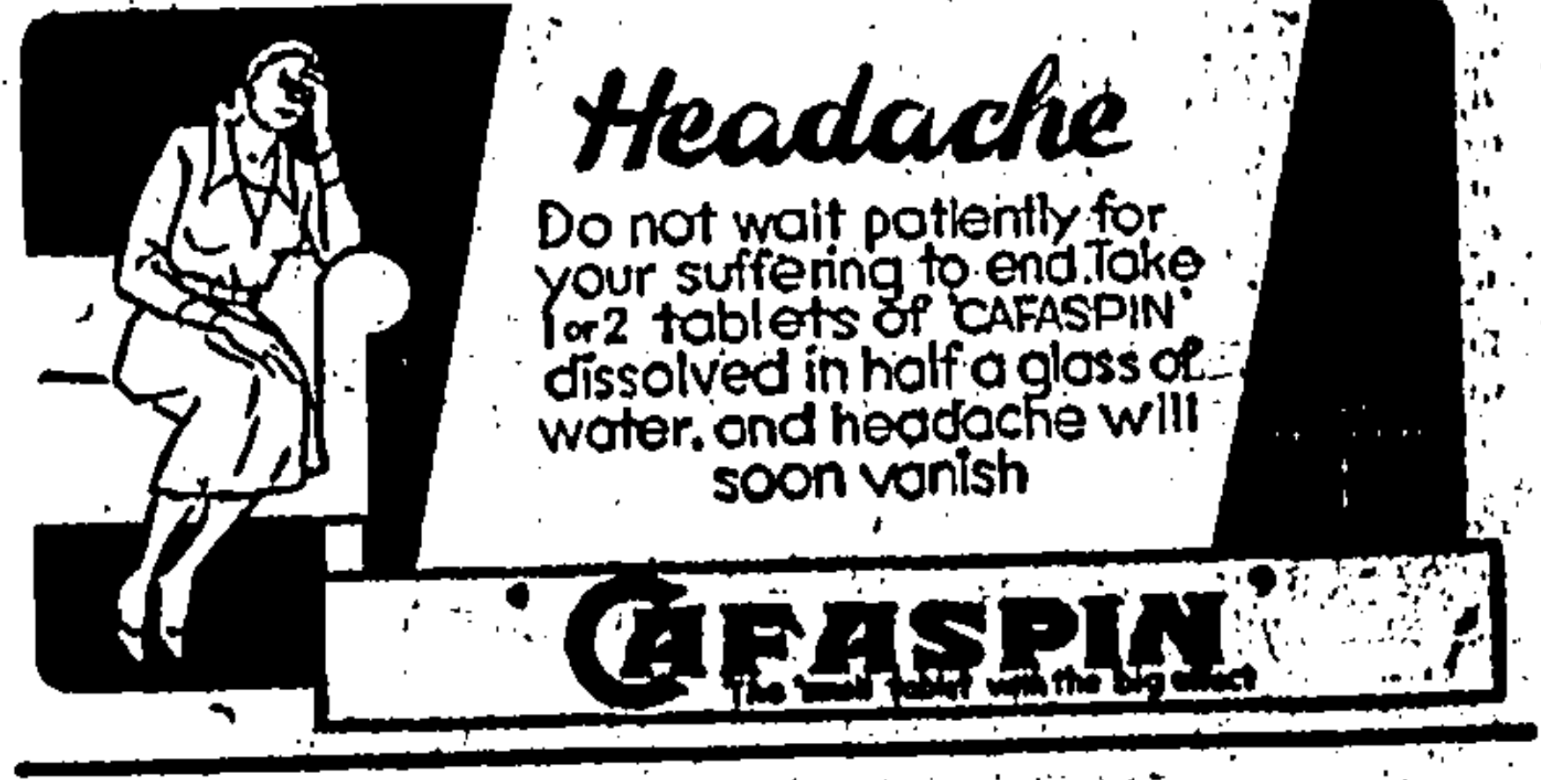
It was a vision all in white. It was like the moon coming out from a cloud for an instant to gaze upon some mere stars. It was Marlene Dietrich, live.

About the evening I have a slightly embarrassing confession to make. Mr Kaye is a wonderful host. He had a lengthy talk with me, and inquired kindly about my tour.

Then he talked to me quite learnedly about the variations in dialect between Glasgow and Newcastle and East End London, and at length he became so excruciatingly funny in illustrating these differences (and some American differences as well) that I laughed to the point of bursting my braces.

Very kindly Mr Kaye ran upstairs and found a pair of his own to give me as a souvenir. They will be a solace for leaving his enchanting company, as well as a support on my long journey home.

SANDEMAN
PORT and SHERRY
Sole Agents
DODWELL & CO., LTD.



Headache
Do not wait patiently for your suffering to end. take 1 or 2 tablets of 'CAFASPIN' dissolved in half a glass of water, and headache will soon vanish
CAFASPIN
The small tablet with the big effect

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

SIXTH RACE MEETING

(To be held under the Rules of the Hong Kong Jockey Club)

Friday 1st and Saturday 9th January, 1954.

THE PROGRAMME WILL CONSIST OF 18 RACES

The First Bell will be rung at 11.30 a.m. on the 1st Day and the First Race run at 12.00 Noon. The tiffin interval is after the Fourth Race (1.30 p.m.). On the 2nd Day the First Bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the First Race run at 2 p.m.

The Secretary's Office at Alexandra House will close at 10 a.m. on the 1st Day and at 11.45 a.m. on the 2nd Day.

MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE

NO PERSON WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED.

All persons MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the meeting.

Admission Badges at $10.00 each per day are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him.

Tiffins will be obtainable at the Club House if ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 72811).

NO CHILDREN will be admitted to the Club's premises during the Meeting. For this purpose a Child is a person under the age of seventeen years, Western standard.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission will be $3.00 each per day payable at the Gate.

Any person leaving the Enclosure will be required to pay the requisite fee of $3.00 in order to gain re-admission.

MEALS AND REFRESHMENTS will be obtainable in the RESTAURANT.

SERVANTS

Servants must remain in their employer's boxes except for passing through on their duties. They may on no account use the Betting Booths in the Members' Betting Hall.

CASH SWEEPS

The cost of a Through Ticket is $30.00. Through Tickets reserved for this meeting but not paid for by 10 a.m. on Thursday, 31st December, will be sold and the reservation cancelled for future meetings.

Cash Sweep Tickets on the last race of the 1st Day (1st January) at $2.00 each may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices at Queen's Building, (Chater Road), 5, D'Aguilar Street and 382 Nathan Road, during normal office hours and until 10 a.m. on that day.

Tickets for the Special Cash Sweep on the Pearce Memorial Cup scheduled to be run on 30th January, 1954, are now available. The cost of each ticket is $2.00.

TOTALISATOR

Backers are advised not to destroy or throw away their tickets until after the "all clear" signal has been exhibited.

ALL WINNING TICKETS AND TICKETS FOR REFUNDS MUST BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT AT THE RACE COURSE ON THE DAY TO WHICH THEY REFER, NOT LATER THAN ONE HOUR AFTER THE TIME FOR WHICH THE LAST RACE OF THE DAY HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO BE RUN.

PAYMENT WILL NOT BE MADE ON TORN OR DISFIGURED TICKETS.

Bookmakers, Tic Tac men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

By Order of the Stewards,
H. MISA,
Secretary.

the "Gold Room"

GALA DINNER DANCE NEW YEAR'S EVE
SPECIAL DINNER DANCE NEW YEAR'S NIGHT
Music by Tony Tubino Quintet
Open till 2 a.m. Both Nights Fancy Gifts & Novelties on New Year's Eve

- GOLD ROOM
- COCKTAIL LOUNGE
- BAMBOO BAR
- MEZZANINE LOUNGE
- MANDARIN ROOM
- RENDEZVOUS ROOM

All under the same management of Hotel Miramar Restaurant Ltd.

★ FOR RESERVATIONS DIAL 58011 ★
Nathan Road, Corner of Kimberley Road

BUTTERFIELD and SWIRE

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO

"FUKIEN"	Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	8 a.m.	1st Jan.
"YUNNAN"	Shanghai	10 a.m.	1st Jan.
"HANYANG"	Moji, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	10 a.m.	2nd Jan.

ARRIVALS FROM

"PETER REED"	Tanjong Mani		1st Jan.
"PAKHOI"	Shanghai	a.m.	3rd Jan.
"HUPEH"	Tientsin & Tsingtao		3rd Jan.

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO., LTD., JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO

"TAIPING"	Kure & Kobe	9th Jan.

ARRIVALS FROM

"TAIPING"	Australia & Manila	6th Jan.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said

		Loads	Sails
"PERSEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Jan.	6th Jan.
"ANCHISES"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Jan.	14th Jan.
"CLYTONEUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	22nd Jan.	23rd Jan.
"ASTYANAX"	Genoa, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, London & Hamburg	24th Jan.	25th Jan.
"PYRRHUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Feb.	6th Feb.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe

	Sails Liverpool	Sails Rotterdam	Arrives Hong Kong
S. "ASTYANAX"	Sailed	—	8th Jan. 1954
G. "PYRRHUS"	do	Sailed	18th Jan. 1954
S. "EUMAEUS"	do	—	25th Jan. 1954
G. "ASCANIUS"	do	—	28th Jan. 1954
S. "AGAPENOR"	3rd Jan.	—	7th Feb. 1954
G. "PELEUS"	7th Jan.	13th Jan.	13th Feb. 1954
S. "AUTOMEDON"	18th Jan.	—	22nd Feb. 1954
G. "ATREUS"	24th Jan.	—	28th Feb. 1954

G. Loading Glasgow, before Liverpool. S. Loading Swansea, before Liverpool. Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load & discharge cargo.

DE LA RAMA LINES

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC & PACIFIC COAST PORTS.

	Sails N.Y.	Sails S.F.	Arr. H.K.
"AGAMEMNON"	Sailed	Sailed	1st Jan.
"DONA AURORA"	— do —	— do —	19th Jan.
"DONA ALICIA"	— do —	30th Dec.	28th Jan.
"BATAAN"	— do —	12th Jan.	10th Feb.
"MUNCASTER CASTLE"	15th Jan.	6th Feb.	7th Mar.

SAILING for NEW YORK, via SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES & CRISTOBAL.

	Loads	Sails
"AJAX"	4th Jan.	5th Jan.
"HAINAN"	19th Jan.	20th Jan.
"DONA AURORA"	17th Feb.	18th Feb.

Accept cargo for Kingston and to Central & South American ports on through bills of lading.

Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd.

Route		Depart Hongkong	Arrives H.K. (on return)
HK/Bangkok/Singapore	(DC-4)	7.00 a.m. Tue. Fri.	7.15 a.m. Wed. Sat.
(Connects at Bangkok with U.B.A. on Tuesdays for Rangoon)			
HK/Manila/B.N. Borneo	(DC-3)	6.30 a.m. Tue. Fri.	3.45 p.m. Wed. Sat.
HK/Saigon/Singapore	(DC-4)	11.00 a.m. Wed.	6.00 p.m. Thu.
HK/Hanoi/Haiphong	(DC-3)	10.00 a.m. Wed.	2.45 p.m. Thu.
HK/Bangkok/Rangoon/Calcutta	(DC-4)	11.00 a.m. Sat.	4.30 p.m. Sun.

All the above subject to Alteration without notice.

for particulars please apply to:

Butterfield & Swire (Hongkong) Ltd.

1 Connaught Rd. Tel: 30331/8

Branch Office: 50 Connaught Rd. West. Tel: 25875, 32144, 24878

EVERETT LINES

EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast regular freight—refrigerator—passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"BRADEVERETT"

Arrives	Jan. 10	from Manila.
Sails	Jan. 11	for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta.

"LENEVERETT"

Arrives	Jan. 25	from Japan.
Sails	Jan. 26	for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta.

(Accepting cargo for transhipment Kobe/Pusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight—refrigerator—passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Persian Gulf Ports.

"THAI"

Arrives	Jan. 1	from Manila.
Sails	Jan. 2	for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Khorramshahr, Basrah & Bahrein.

"STAR BETELGEUSE"

Arrives	Jan. 12	from Singapore.
Sails	Jan. 16	for Pusan, Kobe & Yokohama.

(Accepting cargo for transhipment Kobe/Pusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORPORATION S/A

(Incorporated in the Republic of Panama With Limited Liability)

Queen's Building, Telephone 31206.

Chinese Department: Telephone 28293.

CHINA MAIL

HONGKONG

PUBLISHED DAILY (AFTERNOONS)

Price, 20 cents per copy. Saturdays 30 cents

Subscription: $6.00 per month.

Postage: China and Macao $3.00 per month, U.K., British Possessions and other countries $7.00 per month.

News contributions, always welcome, should be addressed to the Editor, business communications and advertisements to the Secretary.

Telephone: 26611 (5 Lines).

KOWLOON OFFICE: Salisbury Road, Telephone: 52838.

Classified Advertisements

20 WORDS $4.00 for 1 DAY PREPAID

ADDITIONAL INSERTIONS $1.50 PER DAY

10 cents PER WORD OVER 20

Births, Deaths, Marriages, Personal $5.00 per insertion not exceeding 25 words, 25 cents each additional word.

ALTERNATE INSERTIONS 10% EXTRA

If not prepaid a booking fee of 50 cents is charged.

MUSICAL

RCA Victor LP records consisting of symphonies, operas, chamber music, instrumental and vocal. Available D. Essex, 4A Des Voeux Road, Room 1, 2nd floor. Tel. 30106.

FOR SALE

CHIVALRY ANTIENT SCRIPT. An attractive stationery of distinction. In boxes containing 35 fly sheets and 35 envelopes, or 70 single sheets and 35 envelopes. White or grey, $9.00 per box. White envelopes and notepaper also available boxed separately. On sale at "S. C. M. Post."

NOTICE

Kowloon — office space available of 1300 to 2100 square feet in centrally situated modern building (2nd floor). Enquiries to Hong Kong Land Investment & Agency Co., Ltd., Telephone 80244 (Agency Department).

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

m.v. "LA MARSEILLAISE"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co.'s godowns, where it will be at Consignees' risk and subject to the Wharfs terms and conditions of storage, and where delivery may be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

Damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on Monday, 4th January, 1954.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations Consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after 5th January, 1954, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before 28th January, 1954, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

Hongkong, 30th December, 1953.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

Consignees per Company's

s.s. "BIR HAKEIM"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co.'s godowns, where it will be at Consignees' risk and subject to the Wharfs terms and conditions of storage, and where delivery may be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

Damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 2nd January, 1954.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations Consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after 4th January, 1954, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before 24th January, 1954, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

Hongkong, 28th December, 1953.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees per

BARBER-WILHELMSEN LINE

m.s. "TALLEYRAND"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co.'s godown where it will be at consignees risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and condition of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on the 30th December, 1953.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations, consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godown, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 31st December, 1953, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 7th January, 1954, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD., Agents.

Hongkong, 29th December, 1953.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees per

LLOYD TRIESTINO

m.v. "ASIA"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co.'s godown where it will be at consignees risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and condition of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on the 31st December, 1953.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations, consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godown, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 3rd January, 1954, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 11th January, 1954, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD. Agents.

Hongkong, 30th December, 1953.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

s.s. "SINKIANG"

arrd. 29th December, 1953.

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs Goddard & Douglas at Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Godown at 10 a.m. on Monday, 4th January, and Tuesday, 5th January, 1954, and consignees representatives are requested to be present during survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents,

Australian-Oriental Line Ltd.

China Navigation Co., Ltd.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

m/v "CLYTONEUS"

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs Paulsen & Bayes-Davy at Holt's Wharf from 10 a.m. on January 2 and 4, 1954, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, December 31, 1953.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

P.O. Box 58 Queen's Building Tel: 26651

HONGKONG to MARSEILLES in 24 days.

t.v.	"VIET-NAM"	sailing	January	30th
t.v.	"CAMBODGE"	„	February	20th
m.v.	"LA MARSEILLAISE"	„	March	27th
t.v.	"VIET-NAM"	„	April	17th
t.v.	"CAMBODGE"	„	May	15th
m.v.	"LA MARSEILLAISE"	„	June	19th

P&O B.I. E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"CORFU"	10th December	13th January
"CHUSAN"	18th December	16th January
"CANTON"	10th January	12th February
"CARTHAGE"	4th February	8th March

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo Penang & Singapore

Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CORFU"	16th January	15th February
"CHUSAN"	1st February	1st March
"CANTON"	15th February	16th March
"CARTHAGE"	12th March	13th April

Accepting cargo for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London

FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Arrives
"TRESILLIAN"	16th January
"TREGENNA"	25th January

Homewards	Sails	For
"SOCOTRA"	3rd January	S'pore, Pt. Swettenham, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Genoa, Oran, Marseilles, Glasgow, Liverpool, N. Continent.
"SUNDA"	6th January	S'pore, Pt. Swettenham, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Marseilles, London, N. Continent.

With liberty to call at Belawan before or after Straits Ports and at Bombay if inducement offers.

Tanks available for cargo of Oil in Bulk. Space for refrigerated cargo. Limited Passenger accommodation.

BRITISH INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

"SIRDHANA"	due 3rd Jan.	from Japan
	sails 5th Jan.	for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta
"WARORA"	due 6th Jan.	from Japan
	sails 7th Jan.	for Singapore, Rangoon & Chittagong
"ANSHUN"	due 11th Jan.	from Calcutta, Rangoon & Straits
	sails 12th Jan.	for Yawata, Yokohama & Kobe
"PALIKONDA"	due 24th Jan.	from Japan
	sails 25th Jan.	for Singapore, Penang Rangoon & Calcutta

P. & O./B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"OLINDA"	due 7th Jan.	from Karachi, Colombo & Straits
	sails 8th Jan.	for Japan
"OKHLA"	due 12th Jan.	from Japan
	sails 13th Jan.	for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kuwait, Khorramshahr & Basrah direct. Also other P. Gulf ports via Bombay
"OBRA"	due 14th Jan.	from Karachi, Bombay, Colombo & Straits
	sails 15th Jan.	for Japan
"UMARIA"	due 22nd Jan.	from Japan
	sails 23rd Jan.	for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kuwait, Khorramshahr & Basrah direct. Also P. Gulf Ports via Bombay via Bombay

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"NELLORE"	due 14th Jan.	from Japan & Tsingtao
	sails 16th Jan.	for Sydney, Adelaide & Melbourne
"EASTERN"	due 19th Feb.	from Australia
	sails 20th Feb.	for Japan

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

For full particulars apply to:-

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO. OF HONG KONG LTD.

Telephone Nos. 27721-4.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

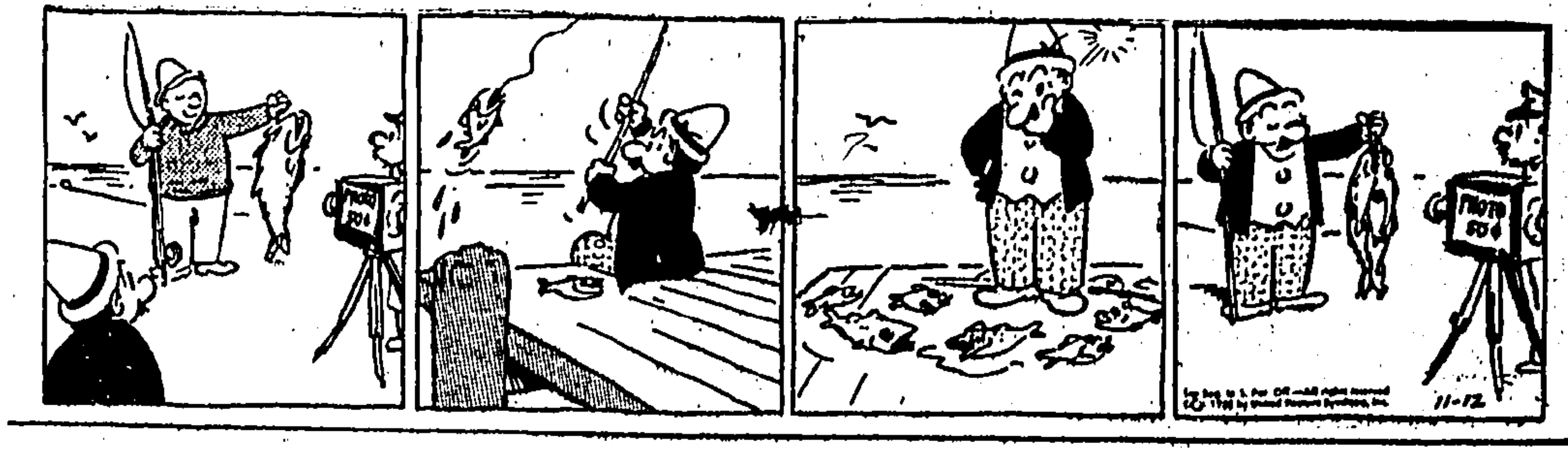
By Lee Falk and Phil Davis

DID HE EAT?
HE ATE.
YES, YOU APPEAR TO BE ONE OF THE LIVING-DEAD NOW--YOU WILL MAKE AN EXCELLENT BODYGUARD FOR ME, KING LOTHAR.
BETTA JABS HIM SUDDENLY WITH A PIN --HE SEES IT IN TIME, AND STANDS RIGID--
A TEST--TO SEE THAT YOU ARE NOT PRETENDING--
COME, KING LOTHAR. I HAVE A SPECIAL JOB FOR YOU TO DO. VERY SPECIAL.

FERD'NAND

Quantity, That's Ferd

By Mik



Dine At the P.G. For Reservations. Tel: 27880

NANCY

Who Needs Water?

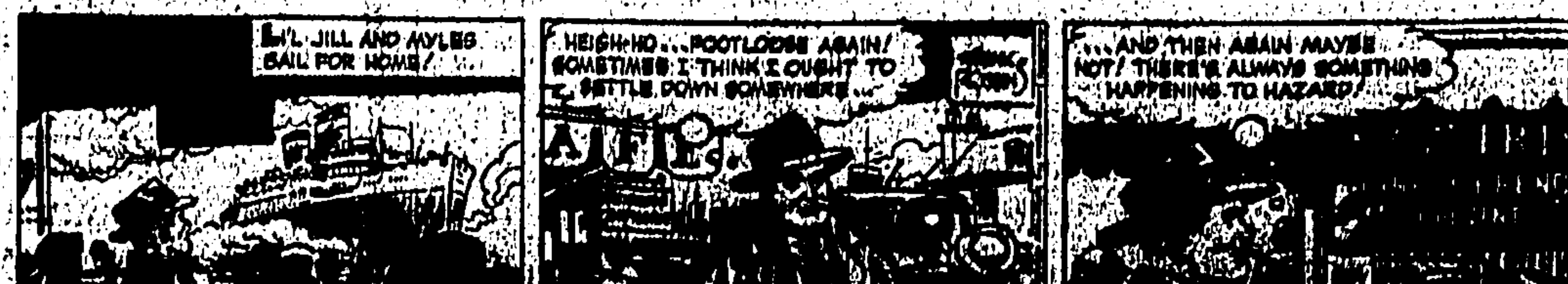
By Ernie Bushmiller

WELL, DORIS--- THIS IS ONE DAY I'VE KEPT YOU CLEAN FOR YOUR MOTHER
CAN I FILL MY WATER PISTOL?
I GUESS THAT WOULD BE O.K.
BUT DON'T SPILL A DROP OF WATER ON YOU
OH, NO-- I CAN'T EVEN REACH THE FAUCET
INK

DAIRY BOX MILK CHOCOLATES

JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins


LI'L JILL AND MYLES SAIL FOR HOME!
HEIGH-HO...FOOTLOOSE AGAIN! SOMETIMES I THINK I OUGHT TO SETTLE DOWN SOMEWHERE...
...AND THEN AGAIN MAYBE NOT! THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING HAPPENING TO HAZARD!

...this situation calls for a San Miguel

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office.

The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

New Year Holiday

Tomorrow, January 1, 1954, the public counters at the G.P.O. and Kowloon P.O. will be open for all postal business from 9 a.m. to noon; other post offices will be closed.

There will be one general delivery commencing 10 a.m. and one collection from the pillar boxes.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

By Air

Formosa, Okinawa, Japan, USA & Canada, 6 p.m.

By Surface

Indo-China, 5 p.m.

Macao, 6 p.m.

NEW YEAR HOLIDAY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1954

By Air

Thailand, Burma, India, Ceylon, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 10 a.m.

Formosa, Japan, Korea, 1 p.m.

Japan, USA & Canada, 6 p.m.

Indo-China, 5 p.m.

N. Borneo, Australia, New Zealand, 6 p.m.

Malaya, Indonesia, 6 p.m.

Philippines, 6 p.m.

By Surface

China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m.

Macao, 9 a.m.

Malaya, India, Noon.

Philippines, Noon.

Indonesia, 5 p.m.

Macao, 5 p.m.

WOMEN SPIES SENTENCED

Berlin, Dec. 30.

A woman accused of military and economic spying, inciting [illegible] and spreading malicious rumours was sentenced to 15 years hard labour at Halle in Eastern Germany, the Halle [illegible] Party newspaper "Freiheit" reported today. The newspaper added that two other women were sentenced to terms of 10 years and 10 months hard labour, respectively on similar charges.—France-Presse.

ELIZABETH, a Circus lioness, looks very ferocious as she guards the quad cubs born to her in a Paris train on her way to a Circus in London. — Express Photo.

1953

A Memorable Year As The World Strove For Peace

London, Dec. 30.

The year of 1953 was the year of the great riddle—would the death of Joseph Stalin bring peace nearer to a nerve-wracked world?

Posterity reading its history primers will know the answer. But to the statesmen, the politicians and the people who lived through it, 1953 was a time for cautious probing.

Hope of an end to suspicion and fear was stronger than at any time since the end of the war—but statesmen hesitated to take any step that might prove wrong.

It was a year when man at last conquered the Everest and stood on top of the world. It was a year that brought an armistice in Korea. It saw the crowning of a British queen in a London garbed like a fairy tale. And it was spectator to the horror and tragedy of disaster by flood and earthquake.

The 73-year-old Stalin in a coma in a darkened room died in March of a stroke. For 29 years his incalculable mind had ruled the millions of Russia and dominated world Communism.

By the very nature of events and not by any spectacular personal word or deed his successor, Mr Georgi Malenkov, assumed the mantle of the man of the year.

Malenkov said there were "no controversial issues that could not be solved by peaceful means."

At the United Nations his representative, Mr Vyshinsky, declared: "If we dig the tunnel of friendship from both ends we are likely to meet earlier half way."

CLUTCHED STRAWS

One man clutched at the straws more boldly than the rest—Sir Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister of Britain. In the year that he reached his 79th birthday he accepted a "Knighthood from his Queen, gained the Nobel award for literature, and sought his "last" prize"—peace.

The stars were wrong. The French Government fell, Sir Winston Churchill became ill from overstrain and his Foreign Secretary and Deputy, Mr Anthony Eden, also became an invalid. The Bermuda talks were postponed.

Churchill rested in the seclusion of his country home while for two months rumours sped round the world that he was paralysed, struck dumb, would be forced to retire.

But towards the end of the British summer the Prime Minister emerged to prove he was not dumb or immobile. The Bermuda conference was held in December in a cautiously hopeful atmosphere. For now the Russians had at last agreed to a meeting of the Big Four Foreign Ministers to discuss Germany.

WORLD WAITS

As the year drew to its close the world waited for the meeting to take place in Berlin early in 1954.

President Eisenhower flew from Bermuda to the United Nations. There, in a statesmanlike speech on the horrors of atomic warfare, he invited Russia and other countries to co-operate in world pool of atomic materials for peaceful purposes.

Sir Winston Churchill called this offer "one of the most important events in history since the end of the war." Russia announced she was giving it consideration and was willing to take part in talks to find a solution to the atomic-weapons race.

The President's offer came in a year when American scientists fired the first atomic shell, tested the most powerful atomic bomb ever exploded in the United States. Britain, too, carried out atomic tests in Australia. But, on the other side of the fence, there was strong evidence that Russia had exploded the dreaded hydrogen bomb.

Germany remained split in two. To the anger of the Communists, West Germany voted for ratification of the European Defence Community Treaty and conventions ending Allied occupation.

But the biggest shock to the Iron Curtain leaders came in June when tens of thousands of workers in Communist East Germany rioted.

The West rated it another victory when Chancellor Adenauer's regime was overwhelmingly re-elected to power in West German polls.

BLUNT SPEAKING

But age-old suspicion still burned in France. Fears of an armed Germany kept her from ratifying the E.D.C. Treaty despite blunt speaking from Britain and America.

Peace came to the battlefields of Korea after three years of war. An armistice was signed on July 27 between the Communists and the United Nations.

Men from the prison camps came home, but as the year came to its end negotiators of both sides were still haggling over the terms of the planned political conference.

It was a big year for Royalty. In Britain Queen Elizabeth was crowned at Westminster Abbey in a glory of pomp, ceremony and colour.

Her greatest Coronation gift was the ascent of Everest, the world's highest mountain, by a British expedition. Two men — Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and Sherpa Tensing, famed Himalayan guide — took the honours of being the first humans to stand on the summit.

COMMONWEALTH TOUR

As the old year ended, Elizabeth was far from the scene of her crowning. It was New Zealand's turn to cheer her, and it would soon be Australia's as she journeyed on a round-the-world tour of her Commonwealth and Empire.

In another part of the Middle East a Monarch quit his throne, then returned to it.

The Shah of Persia and his beautiful Queen fled the country after an unsuccessful attempt by Imperial Guard officers to curb the powers of the aged but turbulent Prime Minister, Dr Mossadegh. The Shah and his Queen returned, Mossadegh went on trial, was sentenced to three years' solitary confinement.

Persia and Britain resumed the diplomatic relations they had broken off when Mossadegh ousted Britain from the rich oilfields.

Britain had other continuing troubles in the Middle East, and new ones in other parts of the world. General Naguib, ruler of Egypt, still insisted that British troops must quit their Suez bases. Negotiations are deadlocked.

It seemed like a slap in the eye for Britain when the Sudan, holding its first independent election, voted into power the National Union Party backed by Egypt.

The fight against Mau Mau terrorists in East Africa went on bitterly. Warships and troops were sent to British Guiana, Colony in South America, to quell a plot by the ruling local politicians to set up a Communist state. The Constitution was suspended.

TOO MUCH GOLF

Opposed by many Africans, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and Southern Rhodesia were merged into a Central African Federation.

Further south, in the Union of South Africa, Dr Daniel Malan's National Party, with its policies of racial segregation, retained power in the elections.

In the United States, President Eisenhower has his domestic as well as his foreign problems. Opponents criticised him for lack of action, for playing too much golf.

The sharpest sting in the American political hive came from Senator Joseph McCarthy, arch-enemy of Communism.

It was a year of disasters. Flood tragedy came to Holland and England. In Holland over 1,400 died in the waters and 300,000 were left homeless. Britain's toll was 307 dead, 32,000 homeless. In the same February week-end the storms sank a passenger boat, the Princess Victoria, crossing from England to Ireland and 128 passengers were drowned.

Earthquakes shook the Mediterranean. At least 600 died and towns and villages were devastated in Greece's Ionian Islands.

A Turkish earthquake killed 266 people and 40 died in another earthquake tremor on the island of Cyprus.

AIR DISASTERS

Japan was the scene of the worst air disaster in history when a United States Air Force Globemaster crashed near Tokyo with a death toll of 127.

A Comet jetliner—pride of British Aviation—met disaster near Calcutta and 43 died.

Near Frankfurt, Germany, 44 were killed in another air accident.

On Christmas Eve, tragedy hit New Zealand when a train plunged from a broken bridge into a river bringing death to 155 people. On the same night Czechoslovakia also had a train crash with a death toll of 103.

Mystery woman of the year was Mrs Melinda MacLean, wife of the British diplomat, Donald MacLean, who vanished two years ago with his fellow diplomat, Guy Burgess. With her three children she suddenly disappeared from Switzerland. As all Europe hunted for her the popular guess was that she had gone behind the Iron Curtain to join her husband.

Another twist to the same mystery came with a Christmas letter from Burgess to his mother—posted in London, but giving no hint of his whereabouts.

Villain of the year was John Reginald Christie, meek and middle-aged London clerk, who lived in a slum flat with three murdered prostitutes [illegible] up in a cupboard and two more buried in his garden. He was hanged after a sensational trial.

—China Mail Special.

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

RECORD PRODUCTION FROM O.E.E.C. NATIONS

Western Germany's Output Up 15 p.c. On 1952

(FROM AN ECONOMIC CORRESPONDENT)

London, Dec. 30.

Western Europe's post-war economic recovery went ahead in 1953 after the setbacks of the previous year. Industrial and agricultural output rose to new record heights, and this greatly benefited the external trade position and led to a sharp recovery in gold reserves.

The 17 nations which form the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation increased their combined production by four per cent between the first nine months of 1952 and the corresponding period of 1953.

Total industrial production—during the period for which information is available—has been running at a rate of 13 per cent above the 1950 level and over 30 per cent above the pre-war level.

Production in the metal-using industries rose only fractionally between the first seven months of 1952 and the corresponding period of 1953, but output in the chemical industries spurted over 14 per cent between the two periods.

The most spectacular increase in output was in petroleum products. Refinery production in Western Europe was running at an annual rate of almost 73,000,000 metric tons during the first six months of 1953, an improvement of nearly 7,250,000 tons over the yearly rate achieved in the corresponding six months of 1952. Output of refinery products is now more than six times as great as in 1947.

There was also a substantial improvement in shipbuilding. Merchant ships under construction in West European shipyards, at the end of the third quarter of 1953 totalled 4,833,000 gross tons, compared with 4,343,000 gross tons at the same time in 1952.

An average of 760,000 gross tons of merchant ships were completed in each of the three months from July to September, 31,000 tons more than in the same months of 1952. Western Europe is now building nearly seven out of ten of the world's new cargo vessels.

In the consumer goods industries, cotton manufacturing continued its recovery from the 1952 recession. Production of cotton yarn by all O.E.E.C. members in the second quarter of 1953 averaged 113,300 metric tons a month, a rise to 16,000 tons over the average for the corresponding period of 1952. Output of cotton fabrics averaged 87,300 metric tons a month during the second quarter of the year, compared with 79,100 tons in the like period of 1952.

W. GERMANY'S RISE

An encouraging improvement has also taken place in Western Europe's agricultural production. Output of bread grains in the 1953-54 season totalled 43,077,000 metric tons, 2,838,000 tons more than in 1952-53. Coarse grain production, at an estimated 37,469,000 metric tons, was 2,337,000 tons better than in the previous year. Over 3,000,000 tons more potatoes were grown, 540,000 tons more raw sugar, and 33,000 tons more tobacco than in 1952-53.

This overall expansion of production, however, was not shared equally by all West European countries. The growth of industrial production in Western Germany easily outpaced that of other O.E.E.C. members. During the latest months for which information has been published, West Germany's production was running at a rate of 15 per cent higher than average its level in 1952.

Britain's production record has, on the whole, been less impressive, but a remarkable improvement took place in the latest months for which figures are available. Production in all industries in September reached a new record, and a further improvement is provisionally estimated for October. If the annual rate attained in the first nine months of 1953 was maintained throughout the year, total British production was four per cent above the 1952 level and slightly higher than the record level of 1951.

Total French production, on the other hand, declined by five per cent between the first seven months of 1952 and the corresponding period of 1953.

TRADE GAP REDUCED

By reducing demand for imports from the rest of the world, the general expansion of West European output had a profound effect on the area's external trade position.

A reduction of 1,300 million dollars in imports, more than offsetting a decline of 340 million dollars in exports to the rest of the world, caused Western Europe's adverse trade balance to fall from 3,303 million dollars in the first eight months of 1952 to 2,343 million dollars in the corresponding period of 1953.

The growth of industrial production also helped to ease Western Europe's dollar shortage. According to figures just published by the National City Bank of New York, O.E.E.C. countries reduced their adverse trade balance with the United States by no less than 747 million dollars between the two eight-month periods.

Commenting on this in the current issue of its monthly bulletin, the National City Bank says: "The reduction in the United States' [illegible] surplus with Western Europe has been both due to the decline in our commercial exports and to the rise in our purchases. In this the revival of production in Western Europe and the growing availability of goods for domestic consumption and for export have played the most important part. Restrictions against dollar goods, deliberate efforts to turn to non-dollar sources of imports, retrenchment policies, and more effective control of inflation have also been influential.

BALANCE WITH U.K.

"Based on figures through August, United States imports from Western Europe for 1953 seems certain to be the largest on record. Imports from seven O.E.E.C. countries, including Belgium, Switzerland, the Scandinavian countries, and Turkey, actually exceed the United States' commercial exports to them. United States trade with the United Kingdom was in balance, and that with the Netherlands approaching a balance."

It is more than usually difficult to forecast Western Europe's economic prospects for the year ahead. A great deal will obviously depend upon Government and private business decisions in the United States and, in particular, upon the outcome of the present inquiry into American foreign economic policy by the Randall Commission.

There is no disposition in Western Europe, however, to remain passive while American economic policies are under review. On the contrary, plans have already been laid within the framework of O.E.E.C. for a further all-round effort to increase industrial output.

On the question of convertibility, only one thing seems certain—there will be no attempt by the United Kingdom, or any other O.E.E.C. country, to "go it alone." Convertibility, when and if it comes, will be a concerted move by all the most important West European countries.

U.K. PLAN UNPOPULAR

The British plan for convertibility by easy stages has been rejected on the grounds that freedom of payments should not be achieved at the expense of freedom of trade. Debtors and creditors to the European Payment Union are combined in opposing the British plan. The former fear that convertibility would wreck the Union and thus deprive them of the automatic credits which it now provides to debtors; the latter are afraid that convertibility would lead to a loss of their non-discriminatory rights in sterling markets.

Despite West German pressure for the abolition of exchange controls, however, progress towards convertibility is likely to be slow, for any movement towards freer payments must await an American decision on its future tariff policy and the provision of adequate financial support (presumably through the International Monetary Fund) for convertible European currencies.

Meanwhile, the Council of O.E.E.C. has instructed the Managing Board of the E.P.U. to examine "the problems which would arise for intra-European trade and payments in the event of one or more European currencies being made convertible, and the methods which might be adopted for ensuring an orderly transition, in such circumstances, from the present form of the E.P.U. to a wider multilateral system of trade, payments and credits," and to report back by the end of next March.

Any discussion of convertibility prospects must remain academic, however, until Western Europe has some assurance [illegible] be undermined by a relapse of [illegible] by America. Europe's fate in this [illegible] is largely in the hands of the Randall Commission.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

New York, Dec. 30.

Stocks erased yesterday's tax-selling losses in a substantial rally today.

Volume of 2,050,000 shares was the heaviest since Sept. 15, and was topped only by yesterday's 2,140,000 shares.

Rails led the recovery, as they paced the decline yesterday retracing 80 cents of yesterday's $1.02 loss. Industrials moved up $2.13 more than erasing yesterday's loss of $1.61 and utilities regained six cents of their 15-cent loss.

The advance today extended the recovery underway late yesterday after the market had dropped sharply on selling to establish losses or profits for tax purposes. Support came on an over-sold condition.

The rise, however, was only a shadow of the year-end rally which Wall Street had hoped for.

Commentators pointed out that lack of important news developments to stimulate the market, and renewed talk of recession in 1954 leading to expectation of lower prices to come, may be deterring re-investment of year-end dividend payments.

Of 1,192 issues traded today, 651 were higher, 255 lower, 280 unchanged. There were five new highs set, 52 new lows.

Among rails, gains ranged to 2 points in Denver & Rio Grande. Oil gains ran to more than a point in Montery Oil and Texas Gulf Production. Utilities generally were up small fractions.

The New York Stock Exchange bond volume was at $3,314,000.

The American Stock Exchange volume was 710,000 shares.

Dow Jones closing averages were:

	Dec. 30
30 industrials	280.43
20 rails	94.28
15 utilities	52.03
65 stocks	150.78
40 bonds	97.32
Comm. future price index	165.59

—United Press.

Chicago Grain Prices

Chicago, Dec. 30.

Prices per bushel in cents:

	Closing Prices Dec. 30
Wheat, No. 2, red	
Spot	[illegible]
March	[illegible]
May	[illegible]
July	[illegible]
Sept.	[illegible]
Corn, No. 2, yellow	
Spot	[illegible]
March	[illegible]
May	[illegible]
July	[illegible]
Sept.	[illegible]
New York Spot [illegible]	[illegible]

—United Press.

Royal Tour Stamps

Canberra, Dec. 30.

Three new postage stamps will be issued at all Australian post offices to commemorate the Royal visit to Australia, Postmaster General Larry Anthony announced today.

He said the stamps would be a 3½d. rose scarlet, a 7½d. purple, and a two shilling deep green.

They will be on sale for two months.

A special slogan postmark reading "Australia celebrates 1954 Royal Visit" will be stamped on all mail throughout the Royal Tour.

—China Mail Special.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

(By Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange this morning amounted to $482,325.20. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:—

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
BANKS			
HK Bank	1580	1600	21 @ 1600
INSURANCES			
Lombard		56½	
Union	837½	840	
SHIPPING			
Waterboat	19	19½	360 @ 19.40
DOCKS, ETC.			
K. Wharf	83½	85	60 @ 84½
Provident (Old)	12.90		
S'hai Dock	1.05		
Wheelock	8.05	8.10	2,400 @ 8.05
LAND, ETC.			
HK Hotel	8.70	8.80	600 @ 8¾
HK Land	76	76½	2,600 @ 76
Humphreys	10.60		
Realty	1.92½	1.97½	20,000 @ 1.95
UTILITIES			
Tram	26.20	26.40	600 @ 26.30
C. Light (O)	13.90	14	250 @ 13.90
C. Light (N)	10.80	11	2,000 @ 10.80
Electric	29.10		600 @ 29.10 900 @ 29.10
Telephone			600 @ 27.10
INDUSTRIALS			
Cement	18.80	19	1,000 @ 18.90
Rope	10½		
STORES, ETC.			
Dairy	25.20	25.30	1,500 @ 25.10
L. Crawford	25.20		500 @ 25.20
COTTONS			
Ewo		2	
Textile Corp.	7.20		
MISCELLANEOUS			
Yangtsze	6.15		1,000 @ 6.20

Singapore Rubber Market

Singapore, Dec. 30.

The market was dull with little interest. Prices closed today as follows:—

No. 1 rubber per lb.	Jan.	67¼-67½
	Feb.	67⅜-67⅝
	Mar.	67⅜-67⅝
No. 2 rubber per lb.	Jan.	56¼-56¾
No. 3 „	„	55¼-55¾
No. 4 „	„	51¾-52
Spot rubber unbaled		56¾-57½

—United Press.

LONDON

London, Dec. 30.

The rubber market was quiet with No. 1 Rss spot quoted at 17⅛ pence per lb. Prices:

No. 1 spot Rss	17-17¼
Settlement house term:	
February	17⅛-17¼
March	17⅛-17¼
October/December	17⅜-17⅝
General markets, cif basis, ports:	
January	16-15/16-17
February	16-15/16-17-1/16
March	17-17⅛

—United Press.

NEW YORK

New York, Dec. 30.

Rubber futures today closed unchanged to 5 points higher with sales of 14 contracts.

Spot No. 1 Rss held around 20⅝ cents a pound. Future closings:—

March	20.50
May	20.50b
December	20.50b

—United Press.

New York Sugar Futures

New York, Dec. 30.

World No. 4 sugar futures today closed 50 points higher to 3 points lower with sales of 195 contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed 1 point lower with sales of 23 contracts. Future closings:—

Contract No. 4 (world)	
Jan.	4.00n
March	3.22
May	3.24-25
Sept.	3.25
Spot (cents per lb. fob Cuba)	[illegible]
Contract No. 6	
Jan/March	5.51b
May	[illegible]
Sept.	[illegible]
Spot (cents per lb. cif NY ex-dock)	5.86

—United Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:—

U.S. dollar (per $1)	[illegible]
Sterling note (per £1)	[illegible]
Indonesian rupiah (per 100)	[illegible]
[illegible] (per 100)	[illegible]
Singapore (dollar)	[illegible]
Indo-China piastres (per 100)	[illegible]

Increase In American Oil Demand Forecast

New York, Dec. 30.

President of Standard Oil Company (New Jersey) Mr E. Holman predicted today that domestic demand for oil in 1954 will rise "around four per cent" above the record 1953 level.

"On the average," Mr Holman said in a year-end statement, "industrial production will probably be about five per cent less than in 1953," noting that some industries will do better than others.

Domestic demand for petroleum products in 1953 ran some six per cent higher than in 1952, Mr Holman said. He called 1953 a good year for all segments of the oil industry.

"The outlook for the new year is for even more intense competition in the petroleum industry," he said. "We now have entered a period requiring redoubled efforts by the oil companies to attract customers in the vast petroleum market at home and abroad."

Touching on the subject of oil imports, Holman noted that "segments of the domestic industry have held the opinion that imports are exceeding amounts necessary to supplement domestic supplies."

"We hope each importing company will exercise industrial statesmanship to the end that existing differences of opinion will be composed within the industry during the coming year."—United Press.

WORLD WHEAT SURPLUSES

London, Dec. 30.

World wheat surpluses in the main producing areas of the world for the 1953/54 season will be 289,890,000 quarters, Broomhall's Corn Trade News estimated in this week's issue.

These figures include exports and carry-overs. The total for the United States is 127,750,000 quarters, Canada 100,870,000, Argentina 26,200,000, Australia 15,570,000, Russia and the Danube 5,000,000, Turkey 10,000,000, and France 4,500,000 quarters.

Wheat and flour shipments from these areas for the 1953/54 season are given as 99,000,000 quarters, although Broomhall stresses that with government finance entering so much into the question any such forecast must contain a large element of guess work.

These figures include 25,000,000 quarters from the United States, 40,000,000 from Canada, 12,000,000 from Argentina, 10,000,000 from Australia, 3,000,000 from Russia and the Danube, 4,500,000 from France, and 4,500,000 from Turkey.—United Press.

Consumption Of Sugar Should Increase

New York, Dec. 30.

World sugar consumption should continue to increase during 1954 but probably at a slower rate than that of 1953, B. W. Dyer & Co., sugar economists and brokers predicted today.

In its year-end report on the sugar industry, the Dyer Company anticipated that the increase in world consumption would fall short of the sharp gain in production which is expected to be considerably larger.

Production estimates for 1953-54 are over 2,500,000 tons above those for 1952-53. — United Press.

US Commodity Markets

New York, Dec. 30.

Commodity futures featured a sharp rise in January sugar and coffee.

January world sugar soared 50 points when covering orders found a scarcity of offerings. Grains featured relative easiness in soybeans because of commission house selling and liquidation. — United Press.

Markets Closed For New Year

New York, Dec. 30.

Financial and commodity markets in the United States and Canada will be closed Friday, New Year's Day.

In London, however, January 1 is not observed as a holiday and markets will [illegible] (usual).—United Press.

THE BEESTON BOILER CO., LTD.
HEATING EQUIPMENT, BOILERS, RADIATORS, ETC.
ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT CO., LTD.
H.K. & Shanghai Bank Bldg. Tel. 27789

CHINA MAIL

SHEAFFER'S
New
Fineline
"500"
RETRACTABLE BALLPOINT PEN
$6.50

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

The Treasurer

TO add a touch of glamour to the dull business of mid-week, workaday meals, the clerks and other office-workers of the great organisation formed a luncheon-club for themselves.

They met and elected officers, choosing a president and a secretary; then they cast about to find a treasurer, and naturally looked in the direction of the accounts department. There they found the ideal man, as it seemed — a steady, reliable, young man named Arthur.

Arthur was elected, and as the office involved a good deal of work the committee decided it should not be an honorary one, but that Arthur should be paid at the rate of £78 a year.

A FLAW

FURTHER, the management of the organisation agreed that Arthur should be allowed to do some of the luncheon club's work during office hours.

Arthur settled down excellently as treasurer. Members were satisfied they got value for their money; the kitchen and waitress staff were financially content. The committee congratulated themselves upon their choice of treasurer.

It was not until last summer that a flaw in his excellence was discovered. It was found then that Arthur had been robbing the club since the previous autumn.

REPAYMENT

INSPECTORS from the organisation arrived on the scene, to look at Arthur's books. The next thing was that Arthur, with profuse apologies, said of the kitchen staff's insurance cards he was asked to produce: "I am afraid I left them in a train last night, and they have disappeared. All this worry, you know...."

He also said he would be glad to pay back some of the money that had vanished. He did, in fact, repay £47 towards a total of several hundreds of pounds that had gone astray.

When Arthur was brought to the Clerkenwell court on charges and summonses concerning the rest of the money, the magistrate, Mr Frank Powell, said, hearing of the money that had been returned and accepted: "Isn't there something about compounding a felony....?"

He did not pursue the matter, but Arthur's prosecutors looked a little uncomfortable.

LOST WEIGHT

ARTHUR pleaded guilty to all the charges and summonses against him. He had written a statement for the police. "I did genuinely lose all those cards," he said, and named the train on which he had lost them. "It was mental stress," the statement said.

A police officer went into the box. "Yesterday, sir," he said to the magistrate, "this man pleaded guilty elsewhere to larceny of groceries from a basket on a bicycle. I believe that since he lost his job (for Arthur's job was gone) he has been living rough. He tells me he has lost four stone in weight."

The magistrate turned to Arthur "What do you want to say?" he asked.

THE TASK AHEAD

"I'M thoroughly ashamed of myself," Arthur said. "Until I stopped working, I was trying to pay the money back at £1 a week. There have been domestic difficulties...."

What those were, Arthur kept to himself. The cash side of domestic difficulties cost enough, the other, intangible, damage such difficulties cause is less easily assessed.

"I shall remand you on bail until next March," said the magistrate. "I shall expect to hear by then that you have paid back £200 in restitution."

Dazed as much, I fancy, by the fact of still being free, as by the size of the task for him that lay ahead, Arthur left the court. One hoped for him that, despite domestic difficulties, there would be someone with whom he could share his good fortune and the task ahead.

"What's His Line?" Solution
HEAD PORTER
London Express Service

Gold Found In Diplomat's Bag

Cairo, Dec. 30.

Egyptian Customs police said today they had confiscated gold and currency estimated to be worth over £5,000 from the baggage of the Cuban Minister in Cairo, Don Luis de Almargro, as he was about to board a plane for Beirut.

They said the gold and currency was seized at Almaza airport, Cairo, and had not been declared by the Minister.

The Minister claimed his servant must have placed the gold and money in his baggage without his knowledge, the Customs police said.

It is understood that the Minister cancelled his flight to Beirut, although no move was made to prevent him from boarding the plane.

Later it was learned that investigations into the case are proceeding and the Egyptian Ministry's legal advisers were being consulted.

Don Luis, who is Cuba's first envoy to Egypt, presented his credentials in February 1950. He also represents his country in a number of Middle East capitals, including Beirut.—Reuter.

Fire Victims Relief Fund

(Continued from Page 1)

Staff of Palmer & Turner	250.00
Mr & Mrs G. D. Smart	100.00
Mr S. J. H. Fox	100.00
J. R. Jones	250.00
Oversea Trading Co. (HK) Ltd.	500.00
Anonymous	25.00
W. J. Gorman	50.00
J. P.—J. M.—S. C.	30.00
Mr & Mrs J. H. Warning	250.00
A. Martis	25.00
B. d'Arcy Leitch	50.00
Anonymous	50.00
Mr & Mrs E. J. Cowell	100.00
Anonymous	50.00
Bat Foong & Co. (HK) Ltd.	100.00
Mr & Mrs S. C. Shih	50.00
Phoebe Shih	20.00
Tony Shih	20.00
Winnie Shih	20.00
Vivan Shih	10.00
A. Leong & J. Bull	10.00
Chuharmal J. Narwani	25.00
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd.	250.00
Humphreys Estate & Finance Co., Ltd.	500.00
Anonymous	30.00
C. A. Allen	20.00
Dr & Mrs F. R. Ashton	25.00
Robert Anderson & Co.	500.00
Misses P. A. Ayrton & L. Stops	30.00
Mr & Mrs R. C. Webb	100.00
Hugh, Min & Ian	100.00
Mr & Mrs A. M. Dixon	50.00
Dr & Mrs H. P. Yew	100.00
Peg & Jack Cater	100.00
Mr & Mrs K. S. Kinghorn	50.00
R. P. Dimlop	100.00
William Jacks & Co., Ltd.	200.00
Mr & Mrs D. Conan Doyle	80.00
Sitlani Silk Store	50.00
Mr & Mrs M. H. Lo	100.00
Hon. T. L. Bowring and Mrs Bowring	100.00
Mr & Mrs D. S. Robb	250.00
Yue Wing	100.00
Mr & Mrs F. Pordes	100.00
Miss Rosie Mark	50.00
Captain L. Colmans	50.00
Mr & Mrs I. W. Urquhart	25.00
Mr & Mrs B. Godkin	50.00
Mr & Mrs H. C. Menzies	100.00
Caltex (China) Ltd.	5,000.00

Previously Acknowledged: $350,127.10.

Total at 10 a.m. today: $377,760.80.

PPP Not To Be Outlawed

Georgetown, Dec. 30.

It was officially stated here today that the Governor of British Guiana, Sir Alfred Savage, had no intention of outlawing the "People's Progressive Party."

This assurance came after a statement from the PPP, warning that should the party be banned, "we shall be forced to carry out an intensified campaign of non-co-operation with the government."—France-Presse.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

T. M. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.
10-29 galbraith
Copr. 1953 by NEA Service, Inc.

"No shootin' my mother or scalpin' my sister—those are house rules!"

No China Mail Tomorrow

Tomorrow being New Year's Day, there will be no issue of the China Mail.

Publication will resume on Saturday when a 20-page China Mail will be on the streets shortly after 10.30 a.m.

The South China Morning Post will publish as usual tomorrow, but will not appear on Saturday.

HK Jockey In Serious Accident

A serious accident marred training gallops at the race track at Happy Valley this morning, when the veteran jockey, Mr T. L. Wong was unseated after completing a last quarter dash on Diamond Dahlia in the first gallop of the day.

Owing to the state of semi-darkness, it was not possible to see what actually happened at the six furlong post as the pony was being pulled up, and the first inkling spectators had that an accident had occurred was the sight of the riderless pony being led into the paddock followed shortly afterwards by Mr Wong being carried in on a stretcher.

It was reported that Mr Wong had sustained a fractured skull.

He was immediately removed to Queen Mary Hospital where his condition was reported to be serious.

At 12 noon today, Mr Wong, who had been unconscious when admitted, had recovered to a point of semi-consciousness.

Duke Attends Memorial Service

Wellington, Dec. 31.

The Duke of Edinburgh today drove solemn-faced through the silent streets of Wellington, where the gay bunting hung to welcome Queen Elizabeth had given way to flags flying at half mast to show New Zealand's grief at the Tangiwai railway disaster.

Accompanied by the Prime Minister, Mr Sidney Holland, the Duke made an early morning flight here from Hamilton to attend the memorial service for victims of the crash. The service is being held at Wellington's Karori cemetery.—Reuter.

Old Man Attacked And Wounded

A 60-year-old Chinese, Lau Hau-yin, was set upon last night in Wanchai by a man with a dagger, and in a struggle was wounded in the arm. The man is believed to have intended to rob the old man, but Lau put up such a spirited struggle that the man had to escape before he could effect the robbery. Police are pursuing enquiries.

US AND AID TO EGYPT

Washington, Dec. 30.

A spokesman for the British Embassy said tonight that the Embassy here had not been informed of any United States intention to grant military and economic aid to Egypt at an early date.

He was commenting on rumours in some quarters that the United States had told the British that an American military and economic aid programme for Egypt was going to be put into effect soon—apparently regardless of whether there is Anglo-Egyptian agreement on the Suez question.

The British, according to some reports, are arguing against any American aid to Egypt other than the current technical assistance programme, until the Suez matter is settled.

The British Embassy here said it knew nothing of this.

The Egyptian Embassy said it was without any knowledge of the entire matter since the Ambassador, Ahmed Hussein, was in Cairo and any discussions with the Americans or British were taking place in the Egyptian capital.

NO COMMENT

Diplomatic observers said it was technically possible that the State Department had informed the British, through the American Embassy in London, without providing the same information to the Embassy. The State Department, meanwhile, declined to comment officially other than with a brief statement by a spokesman declaring that the question of aid to Egypt was under continual discussion at the Department.

Officials privately said they knew of no basis for reports that the United States had informed Britain of impending military aid and economic assistance to Egypt. Their assumption was that this would await a further effort to iron the relatively minor obstacles blocking an Anglo-Egyptian settlement on British evacuation of the Suez.—United Press.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T.

5 p.m. Time Signal and Programme Summary. [illegible]

PRESENTATION OF INSIGNIAS TO 33 LOCAL RESIDENTS AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE

In a colourful ceremony at Government House this morning 33 residents, including Government Servants and members of the Services, received insignias in recognition of their services to the Colony and Britain, from His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham.

Among the recipients were two Chinese women members of St John Ambulance Brigade.

The Hon. R. B. Black, OBE, Colonial Secretary, and the Hon. A. G. Clarke, Financial Secretary, were both decorated with the insignia of the Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George. Other insignias presented were two of Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, three of Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, 12 of Members of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, one Air Force Cross, four Certificates of Honour, seven British Empire Medals, a Serving Sister of the Most Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem and an Associate Serving Sister of the Most Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem.

As the Governor's ADC Mr B.F. Slevin called out the names, the recipients approached the dais with their supporters.

The Hon. The Chief Justice, Sir Gerard Howe, read the citations, while His Excellency the Governor presented the insignia "by the Queen's Command" and "in recognition of valuable services," and congratulated each recipient.

Lady Grantham, wife of His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Peter of Greece, attended the ceremony.

Others present included the Diplomatic Corps, Trade Commissioners, Services Commanders, Senior heads of Government departments, and wives and families of the recipients.

On either side of the dais stood the Head Bailiff, Mr L. Altree, bearing the Chief Justice's mace and the following honorary aide-de-camps of the Governor: Mr Tso Huk-on, Mr A. J. Anderson, Lt-Cdr C. K. Anthony, Capt H. L. Stamp, R.A., Mr A. E. Shave, Fl/Lt J. I. R. Bowring OBE, Lt (S) M. Daniel, Lt M. P. Keyes and P/O F. M. Rosario.

THE CITATIONS

Honourable R. B. Black OBE—CMG

Mr Black was first appointed to the Colonial Service in 1930 and served in Malaya, Trinidad and British North Borneo before coming to Hongkong as Colonial Secretary in February of last year. His work has always been of the highest order.

Honourable A. G. Clarke CMG

Mr Clarke occupies the post of Financial Secretary, a post of particular importance in Hongkong. He has carried out his duties with a degree of competence much above the average to the considerable advantage of the Colony.

Honourable L. D'Almada E Castro, QC — CBE (Civil)

Mr D'Almada is the acknowledged and respected leader of the Portuguese community in Hongkong. He has served as an Unofficial Member of Executive Council since 1949 and of Legislative Council since 1937.

Mr P. H. Jennings—CBE (Civil)

Mr Jennings has been a member of the Colonial Audit Service since 1927 and served in Northern Rhodesia, Mauritius, British Honduras, the Gold Coast and Nigeria before coming to Hongkong as Director of Audit in 1948. Throughout his career he has done excellent work for the Service.

Honourable Kwok Chan—OBE (Civil)

Mr Kwok Chan, Chinese Manager of the local branch of the Banque de l'Indochine, has served the Colony loyally in many capacities and always with outstanding energy and zeal. By his public spirited attitude and his interest in good causes, to which he gives generously of his wide knowledge and sound views and judgment, he has won the confidence and respect of all sections of the community.

Lieutenant-Colonel F.T. Waller—OBE (Civil)

Colonel Waller, as Officer Commanding the Salvation Army in Hongkong has shown untiring hard work and enthusiasm in the cause of constructive social service in the Colony. Arriving in Hongkong in 1945 with the Salvation Army post-liberation pioneer group, he concerned himself with immediate problems of rehabilitation and relief. In 1946 at Government's request he took over and reorganised the Relief Department and after six months was able to hand over to Government a smooth-running and economical machine.

[illegible]

cular undergraduates of the University who had escaped. As Assistant Director of Medical Services in the Civil Administration he helped to reorganise the Colony's medical services. He is now Senior Professor and Senior Dean at the University.

Mr Hon Man Wai—MBE (Civil)

Mr Hon Man Wai is a trade unionist of over thirty years standing and for many years a leader in the movement. His service as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Chinese Engineers' Institute has not only benefited his own union but he has, through his consistently objective approach to problems and sound advice, exercised a strong influence to the advantage of labour as a whole in the Colony.

Mr A. S. Pudner—MBE (Civil)

In his capacity of Manager of the Cable & Wireless Telecommunications Unit in Korea, Mr Pudner carried out his tasks in the battle area most loyally and in a manner at times far beyond the call of duty. He also undertook a hazardous mission by sea with valuable wireless equipment. His organising ability, calmness and courage in times of stress were an inspiration to the unit under his management.

Mr A. Graham—MBE (Civil)

Mr Graham joined the Royal Army Service Corps fleet as Second Engineer in 1939 and in 1951 was posted to Korea as Assistant Superintending Engineer and Constructor of Shipping, British Commonwealth Korean Base. His responsibilities included the repair of Landing Ships Tanks and their refitting, a task which had not previously been undertaken in this theatre, and he did work of particular value in the repair of vessels damaged by typhoons. In addition he designed structural modifications which have minimised beach damage to these vessels.

Mr A. Jillott—MBE (Civil)

Throughout his long career with the Hong Kong Prisons Department, during which he has risen to his present rank from that of Warder in 1922, Mr Jillott has given loyal and excellent service. On the reoccupation of the Colony he was largely responsible for getting the Department on its feet again.

Mr Leung Fung Ki—MBE (Civil)

Throughout his long career in the Education Department Mr Leung has shown together with outstanding ability in his work a cheerful and conscientious devotion to duty and public service, and the respect in which he is held by his colleagues is merited also by the integrity of his personal life. As Secretary of the Department Mr Leung has given valuable aid in the expansion of educational work over the last four years.

Mr Li Chik Nang—MBE (Civil)

As Assistant Social Welfare Officer Mr Li has devoted his considerable talents to the welfare of his fellow men. His successful work in the Social Welfare Office has been of inestimable value in the development of this new Government department during the post-war years, and the loyalty he has shown to his calling is a fine example to all.

Mr Yeung Him—MBE (Civil)

Mr Yeung Him served in a clerical capacity with the Hong Kong Police Force for nearly thirty-six years until 1952. After the reoccupation it was largely thanks to him that the Force was able successfully to overcome such post-war handicaps as lack of records, inadequate premises, and staffing difficulties. An extremely heavy, [illegible] burden of work was met by him with unfailing [illegible] and diligence. [illegible]

[illegible]—MBE (Military)

[illegible]

pany Commander in the Malayan emergency the highest qualities of leadership and devotion to duty. His untiring keenness, cheerfulness and courage were an inspiration to the men under his command who maintained a high level of morale and endurance. He has personally killed fourteen bandits.

Major J. C. M. Grenham — MBE (Military)

Major Grenham's service with the Hong Kong Volunteers dates back to 1930. In 1949 he joined the Home Guard as an Auxiliary and in the same year was commissioned Major and appointed Officer Commanding. He has been very largely responsible for raising the Home Guard to its present strength and has shown exemplary keenness and enthusiasm in training and administering the force.

Major A. N. Braude — MBE (Military)

Major Braude has given twenty-six years service to the Hong Kong Volunteers. Since 1949 he has been personally responsible for the organisation and training of the Signal Platoon which has attained a high degree of efficiency.

Warrant Officer I R.R. Opie—MBE (Military)

Mr Opie was posted to 72 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery, when it was first raised from drafts from 56 different units. He brought to his duties as Regimental Sergeant Major such unfailing keenness, enthusiasm and personal initiative that in a remarkably short time the Regiment achieved a high standard of discipline, smartness and efficiency. Mr Opie has achieved these outstanding results at the same time as earning the affection and respect of all ranks.

Flight-Lieutenant H. S. Horth —Air Force Cross

Flight-Lieutenant Horth joined No. 80 Squadron, Kai Tak, as a Flight Commander in 1952. His previous service with the Royal Air Force, which he entered in 1942, included five years on instructional duties at elementary flying training schools and operational conversion units. He has proved to be an exceptional instructor with high professional ability and in particular rendered invaluable service to the Squadron when it converted to Hornet aircraft.

Mr Chan Wing On—Certificate of Honour

Mr Chan Wing On, a respected elder of Tsun Wan in the New Territories, has shown considerable public spirit and leadership in local affairs and expends his gifts of energy and ability for the benefit of the community. Special praise is due to his organisation of relief measures for the victims of the Tsun Wan flood disaster in 1952.

Mr Ma Kam Chan—Certificate Of Honour

Mr Ma Kam Chan, a leading Hong Kong businessman, is well known for his generosity to many charitable causes and in particular for his outstanding work in connection with the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals, having served three successive terms of office on its Board of Directors and taken a very active personal part in raising funds for its projects.

Mr Chau Cham-kwong — Certificate of Honour

Mr Chau Cham Kwong, well known Hong Kong industrialist, has rendered valuable service to the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals during his three successive terms of office on its Board of Directors, more especially in connection with its efforts to care for refugees from China during 1949/1950. He has also done much for the children of the poorer sections of the community as Chairman of Directors of the [illegible] School.

Mr Wong [illegible]—Certificate of Honour

Mr Wong [illegible] is well known in Hong Kong as Chairman of the [illegible] Kaifong Welfare Advancement Association, an appointment which he has held since its inception in 1949 as the first of such associations to be set up, when he was the prime mover in its organisation. His efficient leadership has led to excellent results, both in membership and range of activities. Particularly valuable aid has been rendered by the Association's Relief Committees to the victims of several squatter fires in the district.

Mr So Sing Woon—BEM (Civil)

Mr So Sing Woon has served Government for over thirty-seven years, first in the Secretariat and later in the Post Office. In particular, he did excellent work for the Parcels Branch at the time of the re-introduction of parcel post services to and from the Colony after the reoccupation. By his unfailing loyalty and integrity he has earned the respect of all members of the staff.

Mr Cheng Po—BEM (Civil)

Mr Cheng Po has a long record of loyal and devoted service to the British Army during peace and war. He joined the R.A.O.C. Workshop, Arsenal Yard, as a fitter in 1916. During the Japanese occupation of Hongkong in the last war he worked as a mechanic with the British Army Aid Group in China, returning to service with the War Department in Hong Kong in 1945. Mr Cheng Po's skill and experience have proved invaluable in training men under his control and his personal integrity exercises a very good influence on younger workmen.

Mr Ng Moi Fat—BEM (Civil)

Mr Ng Moi Fat has given long and outstanding service to the Hong Kong Naval Dockyard, which he entered as Apprentice Trade Boy at the age of 13. For the past twenty-seven years, as No 1 Carpenter in charge of all men engaged in boat repairs in the Chief Constructor's Department, he has shown himself to be an exceptionally able craftsman and a trustworthy and zealous employee, who presents a fine example to his fellow workers by his force of character.

Chief Engine Room Artificer D. P. Clark — BEM (Military)

C.E.R.A. Clark has shown outstanding zeal and devotion to duty while serving in H.M.S. "Newcastle" in operations in Korean waters. As the senior Chief Engine Room Artificer he set a very high standard of efficiency and by exemplary conduct inspired his messmates during long periods of watch-keeping.

Squadron Quartermaster Sergeant H. Barnard — BEM (Military)

Squadron Quartermaster Sergeant Barnard rendered gallant and distinguished services in Malaya during the period from July 1 to December 31, 1950.

Colour-Sergeant G. F. Trodd— BEM (Military)

In his capacity of Assistant Instructor at the School of Signals and later at the Signal Wing of the School of Infantry, Quartermaster Sergeant Instructor (now Colour-Sergeant) Trodd brought unbounded enthusiasm and untiring service to establishing the organisation for which he was responsible on a sound and efficient footing. On promotion to Senior Assistant Instructor he met his heavy responsibilities with outstanding ability and made an important contribution to the training of signal officers and non-commissioned officers.

Sergeant J. E. Ellis—BEM (Military)

Corporal (now Sergeant) Ellis rendered distinguished service in Malaya while serving with the Royal Air Force Regiment (Malaya).

Miss Wong Kit Kwan—Serving Sister of the Most Venerable Order of Saint John of Jerusalem.

Miss [illegible]—Associate Serving Sister of the Most Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem.

Printed and published by William Alick Graham for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.